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UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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In re	:	Chapter 11
	:	
DPH HOLDINGS CORP., <u>et al.</u> ,	:	Case No. 05-44481 (RDD)
	:	
	:	(Jointly Administered)
Reorganized Debtors.	:	
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**REORGANIZED DEBTORS' OBJECTION TO MOTION OF METHODE
ELECTRONICS, INC. FOR AN ORDER (I) PERMITTING METHODE TO
CONTINUE POST-PETITION LITIGATION WITH REORGANIZED DEBTORS
IN MICHIGAN AND (II) OVERRULING THE REORGANIZED DEBTORS'
TIMELINESS OBJECTION TO METHODE'S ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE CLAIMS**

DPH Holdings Corp. ("DPH Holdings") and certain of its affiliated reorganized debtors in the above-captioned cases (together with DPH Holdings, the "Reorganized Debtors") hereby submit this objection to Motion Of Methode Electronics, Inc. For An Order (I) Permitting Methode To Continue Post-Petition Litigation With The Reorganized Debtors In Michigan And (II) Overruling The Reorganized Debtors' Timeliness Objection To Methode's Administrative Expense Claims (Docket Nos. 19895, 19896, and 19897) (the "Motion" or "Mem."), and respectfully represent as follows:

Preliminary Statement

In the Forty-Sixth Omnibus Claims Objection, the Reorganized Debtors objected to two administrative expense claims that were tardily filed by Methode (the "Administrative Claims"). The Administrative Claims concern allegations asserted by Methode in two lawsuits – a claim for anticipatory breach of contract (the "Contract Claim") pending in Michigan state court (the "Contract Action") and a claim for patent infringement (the "Patent Claim") pending in the federal district court for the Eastern District of Michigan (the "Patent Action"). Although Methode asserted the allegations related to its Administrative Claims in these lawsuits prior to June 1, 2009, it did not file its Administrative Claims until November 5, 2009 – almost four months after the July 15, 2009 bar date applicable to administrative expense claims that arose prior to June 1, 2009 (the "July 15 Bar Date"). For this reason and others, the Reorganized Debtors contend in the Forty-Sixth Omnibus Claims Objection that Methode's Contract Claim should be expunged, and that its Patent Claim should be expunged to the extent it seeks damages for alleged claims that arose prior to June 1, 2009.¹

¹ The Reorganized Debtors first objected that Methode filed two claims that were duplicative of each other. (Docket No. 19711 ¶ 20.) Methode states in the Motion that it is willing for claim number 19951 to be expunged as duplicative. (Mem. p.1, n.1.) The Reorganized Debtors also objected on the merits to the contract claims pending in Michigan state court and the patent claims pending in federal court. (Docket No.

Methode styled its response as a motion requesting permission to continue litigating the parties' disputes in the state and federal courts in Michigan.² Methode's Motion misses the mark in trying to fashion the issue here as primarily one of venue. This Court has exclusive jurisdiction over whether to allow or disallow Methode's Administrative Claims under Article 13(b) of the Plan. If the Court disallows Methode's Contract Claim as time-barred, there would be nothing left of that claim to litigate in any forum. As for the Patent Claim – New Delphi is the real party in interest going forward. If the Court finds that Methode's Patent Claim is barred to the extent it asserts claims that arose prior to June 1, 2009, then DPH Holdings would only be potentially responsible for alleged claims that arose during the four month period between June 1, 2009, and October 6, 2009, the Effective Date. And the Reorganized Debtors recognize and agree that it would be appropriate to resolve the merits of the underlying patent dispute in the federal district court in Michigan. Thus Methode's Motion regarding venue is essentially moot.

Even if the Court does consider Methode's Motion with respect to the Contract Action – which the state court recently stayed based on the Court's plan injunction – other factors besides timeliness compel denial of the Motion. Most importantly, forum selection clauses are not binding in core bankruptcy proceedings, and the determination of whether to allow an administrative claim is a core proceeding. Similarly, there is no strong policy reason for this Court to abstain in favor of the state court because, among other things, the validity of Methode's Contract Claim turns on the Court's interpretation of its own orders.

19711 ¶¶ 22-25.) Methode concedes that arguments as to the merits of the parties' disputes are reserved. (Mem. p.1, n.1.) The Reorganized Debtors also reserve all arguments regarding the merits of the parties' disputes.

² The Motion also asks the Court to overrule the Reorganized Debtors' timeliness objection and states that it "also constitutes Methode's response to the . . . Forty-Sixth Omnibus Claims Objection."

Background

Methode and the Reorganized Debtors have different views about the background to the parties' disputes. Methode was a supplier to former Delphi Automotive Systems, LLC ("Delphi") of parts used in Delphi's Passive Occupant Detection System (PODS). Almost every major automobile original equipment manufacturer in the world uses Delphi's PODS in one or more of its vehicle models. The Reorganized Debtors' view of the breakdown in the parties' supply relationship is contained in the Second Amended And Supplemented Verified Complaint For Breach Of Contract And Injunctive And Other Relief filed in the Contract Action. (See Walsh Decl., Ex. A.) The Second Amended Complaint alleges that, beginning in May 2008, Methode began coercing significant price increases from Delphi – up to 50% or more – to which Methode was not entitled, and threatening to cease supplying parts to Delphi if it did not comply. (Id. ¶¶ 78-102.) To further box Delphi in, Methode began breaching its contractual obligation to provide Delphi access to tooling drawings (Id. 103-109.)

Although Delphi informed Methode that its hostile actions would cause Delphi to seek to resource away from Methode, ultimately Delphi was forced to accept the significant price increases to ensure continuity of supply and entered into the three-year agreement proffered by Methode in September 2008. (Id. ¶¶90-100). This agreement expressly incorporated Delphi's Terms & Conditions as modified through specific negotiations with Methode. Section 11 of the Terms & Conditions – left unmodified by Methode – provided Delphi the right to terminate "for convenience" at any time, and also provided that Methode's "sole and exclusive recovery" for such termination would be a cancellation payment for "raw materials, work-in-process and finished goods inventory" calculated pursuant to the terms of the agreement. (Id.; see also Walsh Decl., Ex. B, ¶ 11.)

The litigation ensued thereafter. Delphi initiated the Contract Action in Michigan state court in October 2008 seeking to enforce its right to obtain tooling drawings. Methode filed its counterclaim in the Contract Action in January 2009 alleging anticipatory breach of contract based on Delphi's purportedly concealed efforts to resource supply. In April 2009, Methode commenced the Patent Action by suing Delphi and Marian, Inc. for patent infringement in the district court for the Northern District of Illinois. Thereafter, Delphi succeeded in having the Patent Action transferred to the Eastern District of Michigan. Although Methode's allegations in the Contract Action and the Patent Action arose, and were filed, prior to June 1, 2009, Methode did not file its Administrative Claims by the July 15 Bar Date.

Ultimately, Delphi did terminate the parties' supply agreement for convenience and on account of Methode's breaches of the agreement. Methode sought to enjoin the termination in the Contract Action, but the state court denied the motion. (See Walsh Decl., Ex. J.) Thereafter, Methode submitted a claim for the cancellation payment under Section 11 of the Terms & Conditions in the amount of approximately \$761,000, which the parties continue to reconcile.

On or about November 5, 2009, Methode submitted its Administrative Claims seeking \$40.5 million for breach of contract and additional damages for patent infringement. (Claim Nos. 19950 and 19951; see also Walsh Decl, Ex. Z.) On December 4, 2009, the Reorganized Debtors moved in the Contract Action for a stay based on the plan injunctions contained in paragraph 22 of the Plan Modification Order and Article 11.4 of the Modified Plan. The state court granted the motion on February 24, 2009. (See Walsh Ex. X.) Methode filed the instant Motion in response to the Reorganized Debtors' Forty-Sixth Omnibus Claims Objection, in which the Reorganized Debtors' seek to disallow and expunge Methode's Administrative

Claims because, among other things, "the Contract Claim and the Patent Claim – to the extent that the Patent Claim asserts claims arising prior to June 1, 2009 – are untimely." (Docket No. 19711 ¶ 21.)³

Argument

I. ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE CLAIMS THAT METHODE FILED AFTER THE APPLICABLE BAR DATE SHOULD BE EXPUNGED

Methode's Administrative Claims are time-barred and should be expunged with respect to claims arising prior to June 1, 2009 because Methode did not file its Administrative Claims until almost four months after the applicable July 15 Bar Date. Methode does not dispute that its Contract Claim, filed in Michigan state court in January 2009, arose prior to June 1, 2009. Nor does Methode dispute that its patent claim, filed in federal court in April 2009, arose (in part) prior to June 1, 2009. Rather, Methode argues that the Court should excuse its late filing because (i) the Modified Plan does not require filing of an administrative claim where litigation is pending in another court; (ii) Methode's pleadings in other courts satisfy the "informal proof of claim" doctrine; or (iii) Methode's tardiness should be excused "for cause."

Each of Methode's contentions is incorrect as a matter of law. There is no carve-out for litigation pending in other forums in the administrative expense procedures; the Court has consistently rejected the "informal proof of claim" doctrine where the document at issue was not filed in the bankruptcy court; and Methode cannot meet the applicable "excusable neglect" standard because the deadline was clear and its failure to timely file was entirely within its

³ Both parties agree that the underlying merits of the dispute are not relevant in addressing the issues currently before the Court with respect to the Motion. The Reorganized Debtors dispute Methode's characterization of its allegations to the extent they purport to be offered for the truth of the matter asserted (rather than for what Methode alleged). For example, paragraph 8 of the Walsh Declaration merely reports what was alleged in Methode's counterclaim but does not purport to offer evidence in support of those allegations. When the allegations are repeated in the Motion, however, they are not expressly couched as allegations. (See Mem. ¶¶ 6-10.) As discussed above, the Reorganized Debtors dispute Methode's characterization of the facts underlying facts merits of the dispute.

control. This Court has consistently applied the "excusable neglect" standard to deny leave to file late claims.

Under the claim procedures applicable to administrative expense claims, Methode's filing of a response to the Reorganized Debtors' objection automatically adjourns the hearing on the Reorganized Debtors' objection to a later date. Here, however, Methode seeks to have the Court determine the Reorganized Debtors' timeliness objection now by styling its response as a motion to overrule that objection. Because the timeliness issue is straightforward and likely will moot the forum issues in the remainder of the Motion, the Reorganized Debtors are willing to litigate their timeliness objection now while reserving the right to bring remaining objections to hearing at a later date.

A. The Plan Required Filing Of An Administrative Expense Claim

Article 10.2 of the Modified Plan and paragraph 38 of the Modification Procedures Order (Docket No. 17032) unequivocally required Methode to file an administrative expense claim before the July 15, 2009 bar date for any claims it wished to assert against the Reorganized Debtors and clearly spelled out the consequences for its failure to do so. For example, the Modification Procedures Order provides the following:

Establishment Of Bar Date For Administrative Expense Claims. Any party that wishes to assert an administrative claim under 11 U.S.C. § 503(b) for the period from the commencement of these cases through June 1, 2009 shall file a proof of administrative expense (each, an "Administrative Expense Claim Form") for the purpose of asserting an administrative expense request, including any substantial contribution claims (each, an "Administrative Expense Claim" or "Claim") against any of the Debtors. July 15, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. prevailing Eastern time shall be the deadline for submitting all Administrative Expense Claims (the "Administrative Expense Bar Date") for the period from the commencement of these cases through June 1, 2009.

* * *

Any party that is required but fails to file a timely Administrative Expense Claim Form shall be forever barred, estopped and enjoined from asserting such claim against the Debtors, and the Debtors and their property shall be forever discharged from any and all indebtedness, liability, or obligation with respect to such claim.

(See Docket No. 17032 ¶¶ 38, 40.)⁴ The Modification Procedures Order contains certain exceptions to the filing requirement, such as for claims for payment for postpetition goods and services delivered prior to June 1, 2009 but not yet due and payable, that are inapplicable here. (Id. ¶ 39.) Moreover, the Modified Plan contains the following similar provisions that are based on the Modification Procedures Order:

Pre-Confirmation Administrative Claim Procedures. Pursuant to the Modification Procedures Order, all requests for payment of an Administrative Claim through June 1, 2009 (other than claims under the DIP Facility or as set forth in the Modification Procedures Order, Article 10.1 [DIP Facility Claims], or Article 10.3 [Professional Claims] of this Plan) must be filed with the Claims Agent and served on counsel for the Debtors and the Statutory Committees no later than . . . July 15, 2009. Any request for payment of an Administrative Claim pursuant to this Article 10.2 that is not timely filed and served shall be disallowed automatically without the need for any objection from the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors. . . . In the event that the Debtors or the Reorganized Debtors object to an Administrative Claim, the Bankruptcy Court shall determine the allowed amount of such Administrative Claim.

(See Modified Plan Article 10.2.) Again, there is no contention that Methode's claim falls under any of the exceptions enumerated in the applicable Modified Plan provision.

Although Methode can point to no language exempting its Administrative Claims from these filing requirements, Methode nevertheless makes a perfunctory argument that the pending litigation in the state and federal courts in Michigan relieved Methode of any obligation to "file a piece of paper in this Court." (Mem. ¶¶ 57-58.) First, Methode points out that the

⁴ On July 15, 2009, this Court entered the Stipulation And Agreed Order Modifying Paragraph 38 Of Modification Procedures Order Establishing Administrative Expense Bar Date (Docket No. 18259) to require parties to submit an Administrative Expense Claim Form for Claims for the period from the commencement of these cases through May 31, 2009 rather than through June 1, 2009.

prefecatory definition of "Allowed Claim" in the Modified Plan includes, among other things, a Claim "that has been allowed by a Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court (or such other court or forum as the Reorganized Debtors and the holder or such Claim agree may adjudicate such Claim . . .)." Putting aside that no such "Final Order" exists (and avoiding any discussion of the specific language from the Modification Procedures Order and the Modified Plan governing administrative claims), Methode stitches this definition together with the Michigan forum selection clause in the parties' contract to argue that "Delphi unequivocally agreed to the allowance of Methode's claims in Michigan." (*Id.* at ¶ 57.) This makes no sense.

At most, Methode's argument supports the idea that the Modified Plan would allow the parties to agree to determine the amount of presently unliquidated claims in another forum. Moreover, this would require the Reorganized Debtors' consent and relief from the injunction, and even then this Court would ultimately determine whether the administrative claim is "allowed" or, for example, barred due to late filing. Thus, Methode's argument does not support its contention that it was not required to file an administrative expense claim. Based on the unequivocal terms of the Modification Procedures Order and the Modified Plan, Methode's pre-June 1, 2009 administrative expense claims are barred.

B. Methode Admits That It Cannot Meet The Standard To Invoke The "Informal Proof Of Claim" Doctrine

Methode argues in the alternative that its filings in Michigan are adequate to meet the "informal proof of claim" doctrine. (Mem. ¶ 59.) Methode itself describes this standard as follows:

Under that doctrine, a pleading or document that does not meet the formal requirements of a proof of claim nevertheless will be deemed adequate if it (1) was timely filed with the bankruptcy court, (2) states the existence and nature of the debt, (3) states the amount of the claim against the estate, and (4) evidences the creditor's intent to hold the debtor liable for the debt.

(Mem. ¶ 59 (citing In re Enron Creditors Recovery Corp., 370 B.R. 90, 99 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2007)).) See also Houbigant, Inc. v. ACB Mercantile, Inc. (In re Houbigant, Inc.), 190 B.R. 185, 187-88 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 1995). Methode concedes that it does not meet the test it set forth because it made no timely filing with the bankruptcy court as required by the first prong of the test. (Mem. ¶ 59 ("With the exception of a filing in the Bankruptcy Court, Methode's pleadings in Michigan satisfy each of those requirements.") (emphasis added).) Accordingly, by its own telling Methode's argument fails as a matter of law.

Although Methode cites cases from outside this Circuit to argue that "pleadings in lawsuits outside the bankruptcy court can qualify as informal proofs of claim" (Mem. ¶ 59), this Court has already rejected that argument during the course of these chapter 11 cases. See Transcript of August 20, 2009 Hearing at 44, attached as Exhibit C hereto ("The [informal proof of claim] argument, however, again runs afoul of case law in this district and the majority of the cases, including at the circuit court level elsewhere: that is, that the document giving rise to the informal proof of claim was not filed in this Court, but rather, instead, only in the courts in Michigan and in Massachusetts."); see also In re Houbigant, Inc., 190 B.R. at 187-88 (citing Berger v. Trans World Airlines (In re Trans World Airlines, Inc.), 182 B.R. 102, 108 (D. Del. 1995) (counterclaims filed by creditor in litigation pending in federal district court in Missouri do not qualify as informal claims in bankruptcy case pending in Delaware because they were not filed of record in the bankruptcy court)).

In addition, Methode's pleadings also do not meet the requirement to "state[] the amount of the claim against the estate." (Mem. ¶ 59 (citing In re Enron Creditors Recovery Corp., 370 B.R. at 99).) In particular, Methode's state court counterclaim provided no notice that Methode would be seeking "an amount not less than \$40,500,000," as set forth in Methode's late-

filed administrative expense claims. (Walsh Decl., Ex. Z.) For these reasons, the informal proof of claim doctrine cannot save Methode's untimely claims.

C. There Is No Basis To Accept Methode's Tardy Claims Under The Applicable "Excusable Neglect" Standard

Methode also bases its third and final argument against the Reorganized Debtors' timeliness objection on faulty premises. First, ignoring this Court's prior rulings in these chapter 11 cases applying the "excusable neglect" standard to administrative claims, Methode relies exclusively on out-of-Circuit cases to argue for a looser "standard of 'cause' [that] is more flexible than a standard of 'excusable neglect.'" (Mem. at 23-24.) Second, Methode also ignores Second Circuit case law establishing that "excusable neglect" is rarely if ever satisfied where, as here, the deadline was clear and the failure to file was within the control of the movant.

1. The Excusable Neglect Standard Applies

The Modification Procedures Order established the July 15 Bar Date. Bankruptcy Rule 9006(b)(1) provides that:

when an act is required or allowed to be done at or within a specified period . . . by order of court, the court for cause shown may at any time in its discretion . . . (2) on motion made after the expiration of the specified period permit the act to be done where the failure to act was the result of excusable neglect.

Although Bankruptcy Rule 9006(b)(1) unambiguously applies by its terms and equates "cause" with "excusable neglect" after the expiration of the relevant deadline, Methode argues that the Rule is inapplicable. Methode cites a single unreported case from the Southern District of Indiana for the proposition that Bankruptcy Code section 503(a) sets up a more lenient and flexible "cause" standard just for administrative claims because it separately provides that "[a]n entity may timely file a request for payment of an administrative expense, or may tardily file such request if permitted by the Court for cause." (Mem. ¶ 61 (citing Good v. Blankenship (In re

Heartland Steel, Inc.), No. 03-CV-802, 2003 WL 23100035 (S.D. Ind. Dec. 16, 2003).) Unlike the district court in In re Heartland Steel, bankruptcy courts in this district have harmonized the "cause" standards under Bankruptcy Rule 9006(b), section 503(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, as well as Bankruptcy Rule 3003(c)(3) applicable late-filed pre-petition claims. In re Dana Corp., No. 06-10354, 2007 WL 1577763, at *3 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y May 30, 2007); see also In re Northwest Airlines Corp., No. 05-17930, 2010 WL 502837, at *1-2 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Feb. 9, 2010); In re PT-1 Communications, Inc., 386 B.R. 402 (Bankr. E.D.N.Y. 2007).

Indeed, during the pendency of these chapter 11 cases this Court has found that late administrative claims are subject to the excusable neglect standard. See Transcript of August 20, 2009 Hearing at 47, attached as Exhibit C hereto ("The issue then comes down to whether the late filing of the proof of administrative claim should be permitted under Bankruptcy Rule 9006 for excusable neglect."); see also generally Transcript of December 18, 2009 Hearing (Docket No. 19295) at 75 ("I conclude that the Fund has not carried its burden to establish excusable neglect here in respect of its proof of claim"). Methode's Motion provides no reason for the Court to depart from the standard of "excusable neglect" that it has consistently applied.

2. Methode Cannot Demonstrate Excusable Neglect

Methode has not met its burden for establishing "excusable neglect" under the test outlined by the United States Supreme Court in Pioneer Investment Services Co. v. Brunswick Assocs. Ltd. P'ship, 507 U.S. 380, 395 (1993). In Pioneer, the Supreme Court held that excusable neglect is the failure to comply with a filing deadline because of negligence. Id. at 394. In examining whether a creditor's failure to file a claim by the bar date constituted excusable neglect, the Supreme Court found that the factors include "[i] the danger of prejudice to the debtor, [ii] the length of the delay and its potential impact on judicial proceedings, [iii] the reason

for the delay, including whether it was within the reasonable control of the movant, and [iv] whether the movant acted in good faith." Id. at 395. The Second Circuit has held the most important factor is the reason for the delay, including whether it was within the reasonable control of the movant. Midland Cogeneration Venture Ltd. P'ship v. Enron Corp. (In re Enron Corp.), 419 F.3d 115, 122-24 (2d Cir. 2005).

As this Court has consistently ruled on motions under Bankruptcy Rule 9006(b)(1) seeking leave to file an untimely proof of claim, a movant must first show that its failure to file a timely claim constituted "neglect," as opposed to willfulness or a knowing omission. Then, a movant must show by a preponderance of the evidence that the neglect was "excusable." See, e.g., Order Pursuant To 11 U.S.C. § 502(b) And Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3007 (I) Denying United States Of America's Motion For Leave To File Late Claim And (II) Disallowing And Expunging Proof Of Claim Number 16727, entered March 25, 2009 (Docket No. 16515) at Ex. A p. 2 (citing Pioneer and Midland Cogeneration cases).

The Second Circuit has observed that "'the equities will rarely if ever favor a party who fail[s] to follow the clear dictates of a court rule,' and 'that where the rule is entirely clear, we continue to expect that a party claiming excusable neglect will, in the ordinary course, lose under the Pioneer test.'" In re Enron Corp., 419 F.3d at 123 (quoting Silivanch v. Celebrity Cruises, Inc., 333 F.3d 355, 366-67 (2d Cir. 2003)).

a. Reason For The Delay

The reason for the delay is the most important factor and is often dispositive. See In re Musicland Holding Corp., 356 B.R. 603, 607-08 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2006) (emphasizing and noting that the Second Circuit emphasizes the reason for the delay in determining excusable neglect and stating that, "The other factors are relevant only in close cases."). Methode does not

dispute that it received adequate notice of the July 15 Bar Date. In fact, Methode received notice directly at its various addresses, as well as through notice served on counsel representing Methode in the state court action. (See Affidavit of E. Gershbein dated June 23, 2009, Docket No. 17267.) Furthermore, Methode was unquestionably well aware of its claims prior to the bar date as it had commenced litigation six months earlier on the same claims. Therefore, Methode's failure to file a timely administrative expense claim was entirely within Methode's control. This factor weighs heavily in favor of the Reorganized Debtors. Indeed, this Court has held that where a notice is clear, and is received by counsel, the failure to comply is willful conduct that cannot be excused under the "excusable neglect" standard. See Transcript of February 14, 2007 Hearing (Docket No. 7446) at 29.

Although Methode offers no specific excuse for its delay, Methode does contend that it has acted reasonably. In doing so, it draws a comparison between itself and the claimants in Greyhound Lines, Inc. v. Rogers (In re Eagles Bus Mfg., Inc.) 62 F.3d 730 (5th Cir. 1995). In Greyhound, certain claimants did not submit proofs of claim prior to the claims bar date just as Methode has failed to do in these cases. However, unlike Methode, these claimants were in the midst of alternative dispute resolution that was ordered by the bankruptcy court prior to the bar date. The Fifth Circuit affirmed the bankruptcy court's finding of excusable neglect not because the claimants were participating in litigation with the Debtor in another forum but because

"the ADR order required claimants to participate in ADR prior to any hearing on a motion to lift stay. Had this order not been issued the majority of the claimants would no doubt have filed a motion to lift the automatic stay." But for the requirement to go to ADR, the Claimants would have most probably filed motions to stay the execution months before the bar date. These motions usually constitute informal proofs of claim . . . Furthermore, the warning provided to creditors about the need for filing their proofs of claim, regardless of the ADR, was not very conspicuous.

Greyhound, 62 F.3d at 739-40 (quoting the bankruptcy court's opinion).

This reasoning is entirely inapplicable to the facts of the instant case. Unlike the claimants in Greyhound, Methode was not forced to pursue litigation in other forums prior to seeking relief from this Court nor does Methode contend that notice regarding the bar date was ineffective.

b. Prejudice To The Debtor

Secondly, allowing Methode to pursue its late-filed claim will prejudice the Reorganized Debtors because they remain responsible for the wind-up of administrative claims. Methode's late contract claim alone asserts \$40.5 million in damages. Allowance of Methode's claims at anything close to the asserted amount would obviously prejudice the Reorganized Debtors.

In addition, Methode's claims would prejudice the Reorganized Debtors as well as other creditors in these cases who filed timely administrative expense claims by opening the floodgates to any potential claimant who failed to file an administrative expense claim on or before July 15, 2009. The July 15 Bar Date was established to identify administrative expense claims accruing before June 1, 2009 that would either be paid pursuant to the terms of the Modified Plan or the Master Disposition Agreement. Allowing Methode to file an untimely claim may inspire many other similarly situated potential claimants to file similar motions. Any potential claimant who, by its own error, failed to file a timely administrative expense claim may seek to follow Methode's lead. Courts have often recognized the danger of opening the floodgates to potential claimants. In re Enron Corp., 419 F.3d at 132 (2d Cir. 2005); see also In re Kmart Corp., 381 F.3d 709, 714 (7th Cir. 2004) (noting that if court allowed all similar late filed claims, "Kmart could easily find itself faced with a mountain of such claims"); In re Enron Creditors Recovery Corp., 370 B.R. at 103 ("It can be presumed in a case of this size with tens

of thousands of filed claims, there are other similarly-situated potential claimants. . . . Any deluge of motions seeking similar relief would prejudice the Debtors' reorganization process." (citation omitted)); In re Dana Corp., No. 06-10354, 2007 WL 1577763, at *6 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2007) ("the floodgates argument is a viable one").

Indeed, the Court has denied late administrative claims and other late claims in these cases, and fairness counsels that the Court should remain consistent in its application of bar dates. Accordingly, establishing a precedent for allowing untimely claims without a compelling justification would greatly prejudice the Debtors, their estates, and their creditors and undermine the Debtors' restructuring efforts.

**c. Length Of The Delay And Impact
On Judicial Proceedings**

Finally, the length of the delay also favors disallowing Methode's claim. The Second Circuit has adopted a "strict" standard in the area of excusable neglect, Asbestos Personal Injury Plaintiffs v. Travelers Indem. Co. (In re Johns-Manville Corp.), 476 F.3d 118, 120 (2d Cir. 2007), and Methode was nearly four months late in filing its claim. Furthermore, Methode's claims could not be taken into account during the plan modification process as it was filed over two months after the Modified Plan was confirmed.

For all of these reasons, Methode's pre-June 1, 2009 administrative expense claims should be expunged.

**II. REORGANIZED DEBTORS' OBJECTIONS TO THE TIMELINESS OF
METHODE'S ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE CLAIMS RENDER
METHODE'S MOTION TO LIFT THE PLAN INJUNCTION MOOT**

The balance of Methode's Motion seeks an order permitting Methode to continue to prosecute the two cases it has pending against the Reorganized Debtors in the Michigan state and federal courts. In the event the Court grants the Reorganized Debtors' objection to the

timeliness of Methode's claims, however, there will be no dispute between the parties regarding this issue. As explained more fully below, expungement of the Contract Claim will resolve Methode's claims in the Contract Action, which is currently stayed. As for the Patent Action, New Delphi has effectively intervened in the suit by filing its own consolidated action. Although this Court must determine the validity and scope of Methode's administrative expense claim for patent infringement – including the degree to which it is barred – the Reorganized Debtors agree that it is appropriate for the federal district court to determine the merits of the underlying patent dispute.

A. Anticipatory Breach Of Contract

Methode filed its anticipatory breach of contract counterclaim on January 9, 2009. The counterclaim was based on the central allegation that "Delphi entered into the [parties' supply] agreement in bad faith and, in particular, that 'Delphi concealed its intent to in-source or re-source Methode shortly after executing the agreement, and Delphi concealed its intent to sue Methode to obtain the Methode tool drawings in order to effect the re-sourcing.'" (Mem. ¶ 12 (quoting Walsh Decl. Ex. D ¶ 44).) This counterclaim clearly arose prior to June 1, 2009, since it was filed six months earlier and has never been amended.

Moreover, when Delphi terminated the supply agreement in August 2009 for convenience and breach under the terms of the parties' agreement, the termination did not give rise to any new claims in the Contract Action. Although Methode moved for a preliminary injunction to stop the termination, Methode's motion was based on the assertion that Delphi was barred from relying on the termination-for-convenience clause because of its earlier alleged

anticipatory breach of the supply agreement.⁵ (Mem. ¶ 15.) Again, Methode relied on the same allegations from its January 9, 2009 counterclaim, which it never amended.

In a single paragraph in the Motion, Methode tentatively suggests – contrary to its own allegations in the lawsuit – that its claim might have arisen in August 2009 rather than January 2009, stating only that "to the extent Methode's contract claim and damages arose when Delphi's threat of termination was carried out in August 2009, Delphi's timeliness argument is inapplicable" (Mem. ¶ 55.) Even if construed as an argument upon which Methode asks the Court to rely, the argument fails.

Delphi's termination for convenience was pursuant to a right expressly bargained for in the agreement, and it provided Methode an exclusive contractual recovery for raw materials, work-in-process and finished goods inventory possessed by Methode at the time that Delphi elected to exercise the termination for convenience provision. As set forth in the agreement:

TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE. In addition to any other rights of Buyer to terminate this Contract, Buyer may immediately terminate all or any part of this Contract, at any time and for any reason, by notifying Seller in writing. Upon such termination, Buyer may, at its option, purchase from Seller any or all raw materials, work-in-process and finished goods inventory related to the goods under this Contract which are usable and in a merchantable condition. The purchase price for such finished goods, raw materials and work-in-process, and Seller's sole and exclusive recovery from Buyer (without regard to the legal theory with is the basis for any claim by Seller) on account of such termination, will be (a) the contract price for all goods or services that have been completed in accordance with this Contract as of termination date and delivered and accepted by Buyer and not previously paid for, plus (b) the actual costs of work-in-process and raw materials incurred by Seller in furnishing the goods or services under this Contract to the extent such costs are reasonable in amount and are properly allocable or apportionable under generally accepted accounting principles to the terminated portion of this

⁵ Methode's motion was denied by the state court because, among other reasons, the Court found that Methode was unlikely to succeed on the merits of its argument that Delphi's termination for convenience was in bad faith. (Walsh Decl., Ex. J at 2-3.)

Contract less (c) the reasonable value or cost (whichever is higher) of any goods or materials used or sold by Seller with Buyer's written consent. . . . Within sixty (60) days after the effective date of termination, Seller will submit a comprehensive termination claim to Buyer

(See General Terms & Conditions, Walsh Decl., Ex. B ¶11.) Delphi's August 26, 2009

Termination Letter requested an inventory and cost breakdown of all raw materials, work-in-progress, and finished goods inventory as contemplated by this contractual provision. On November 1, 2009, Methode submitted its cancellation claim pursuant to this contractual provision in the amount of \$761,755.94 (as amended by Methode on November 18, 2009). (A true and correct copy is attached hereto as Ex. A.) The parties continue to work toward reconciling the amount of the payment under the cancellation claim, as reflected most recently in Methode's letter of April 30, 2010. (A true and correct copy is attached hereto as Ex. B.)

Although this cancellation payment is part of Methode's administrative claim for contract damages, it does not stem from a breach of contract and is not part of the litigation in the Michigan state court or in any other court. Indeed, Methode's request for the cancellation payment under paragraph 11 of the General Terms & Conditions is inconsistent with the relief it is seeking in the contract action – and the \$40.5 million in damages attributed to the contract action in the administrative claim – because the cancellation payment is expressly stated to be "Seller's sole and exclusive recovery from Buyer" under the terms of the agreement. (See Walsh Decl., Ex. B ¶11.) In short the termination-for-convenience payment is separate from the breach of contract claim and is not pending in any other forum.

Because all of the claims at issue in Contract Action are barred by Methode's failure to timely file its administrative claim, its Motion to continue litigating in Michigan state court is moot and the Court need not consider other factors that Methode urges in support of its Motion.

B. Patent Infringement

On April 9, 2009, Methode filed the Patent Action against Delphi and Marian, Inc. in the district court for the Northern District of Illinois. The patent action alleged that "as part of the same effort to re-source the pads underlying the dispute over the tooling drawings, Delphi was making, using, and/or selling infringing weight sensing pads" (Mem. ¶16.) Delphi succeeded in having venue transferred to the district court for the Eastern District of Michigan. Because the Patent Action was filed in April 2009, it necessarily arose, at least in part, prior to June 1, 2009.

The Reorganized Debtors do not believe that they are liable for patent infringement either before or after June 1, 2009. In fact, Delphi countersued in the Patent Action disputing the validity, ownership, and enforceability of Methode's patent. Moreover, New Delphi is the real party in interest going forward. If the Court finds that Methode's patent infringement claims are barred with respect to infringement that occurred prior to June 1, 2009, then DPH Holdings would only be potentially responsible for claims of infringement for the four month period between June 1, 2009, and October 6, 2009. As to the venue for the underlying patent litigation, however, there is no dispute. The Reorganized Debtors recognize and agree that it is appropriate for the Michigan federal court to resolve the patent issues in light of the specialized subject matter and the involvement of other parties.

III. THERE IS NO BASIS TO CONTINUE LITIGATION OF THE CONTRACT DISPUTE IN MICHIGAN STATE COURT

A. The Plan Injunction Unquestionably Applies

Despite Methode's contention that it did not violate this Court's injunction by continuing to litigate in state court, the injunction is not susceptible to any other interpretation. Paragraph 22 of the Plan Modification Order provides that:

Injunction. Except as otherwise specifically provided in the Modified Plan, the MDA Documents, or this order and except as may be necessary to enforce or remedy a breach of the Modified Plan, the Debtors and all Persons shall be precluded and permanently enjoined on and after the Effective Date from (a) commencing or continuing in any manner any Claim, action, employment of process, or other proceeding of any kind with respect to any Claim, Interest, Cause of Action, or any other right or Claim against the Reorganized Debtors, which they possessed or may possess prior to the Effective Date

(Docket No. 18707 ¶ 22.) As the Michigan state court noted in granting the Reorganized Debtors' motion for a stay, "this Court does not see how the Bankruptcy Court's injunction could be construed as anything but an order enjoining proceedings in other courts. (See Walsh Decl., Ex. X, at 3.)⁶

Methode's arguments to the contrary are based on the definition of Allowed Claim, as debunked above in Section I.A., and on Methode's contention that the Reorganized Debtors waived any reliance on the injunction by continuing to litigate in Michigan after the Effective Date. It should be noted that Methode greatly exaggerates the significance of litigation in Michigan state court between the Effective Date (October 6, 2009) and the Reorganized Debtors' filing of the motion for a stay on December 4, 2009. (See Mem. ¶ 23.) The Reorganized Debtors' inadvertent continuation of limited discovery activities after the Effective Date does not vitiate Methode's obligation to abide by the injunction.

B. There Is No Basis To Modify The Injunction

This Court has maintained jurisdiction to adjudicate Methode's Administrative Claims pursuant to Article XIII of the Modified Plan which states that:

Pursuant to sections 105(a) and 1142 of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Court shall have exclusive jurisdiction of all matters arising out of, and related to, the Chapter 11 Cases and this Plan, including . . . to adjudicate any and all adversary proceedings,

⁶ The Contract Action is also barred by the injunction in Article 11.14 of the Modified Plan.

applications, and contested matters that may be commenced or maintained pursuant to the Chapter 11 Cases, this Plan, or that were the subject of proceedings before the Bankruptcy Court prior to the Effective Date, proceedings to adjudicate the allowance of Disputed Claims and Disputed Interests, and all controversies and issues arising from or relating to any of the foregoing[.]

Methode argues that the parties are contractually required to resolve both the Contract Action and the Patent Action in Michigan pursuant to the terms of the forum selection clause, however, "[a] debtor-in-possession or trustee . . . is not bound by a forum selection clause in an agreement provided the litigation at issue amounts to a core proceeding and is not inextricably intertwined with non-core matters." Official Comm. of Unsecured Creditors v. Transpacific Corporation Ltd. (In re Commodore International), 242 B.R. 243 at 261 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 1999); see also Statutory Comm. of Unsecured Creditors v. Motorola, Inc., (In re Iridium Operating LLC) 285 B.R. 822, 837 (S.D.N.Y. 2002) (applying the rule set forth in Commodore); Breeden v. The Ageis Consumer Funding Group Inc. (In re Bennett Funding Group, Inc.), 259 B.R. 243, 252 (N.D.N.Y. 2001) ("Transferring a core matter that is not 'inextricably intertwined' with non-core matters adversely impacts the strong public policy interest in centralizing all core matters in the bankruptcy court.").

Section 157(b)(2) of Title 28 provides a non-exclusive list of proceedings deemed to be core, including "matters concerning the administration of the estate;" "allowance or disallowance of claims against the estate;" "counterclaims by the estate against persons filing claims against the estate;" and "orders to turn over property of the estate." The Second Circuit has found that "[i]n crafting § 157, 'Congress realized that the bankruptcy court's jurisdictional reach was essential to the efficient administration of bankruptcy proceedings and intended that 'core' jurisdiction would be construed as broadly as possible to the constitutional limits established'" by the Supreme Court. Bankruptcy Serv. Inc. v. Ernst & Young (In re CBI Holding

Co., Inc.), 529 F.3d 432 at 460 (2d Cir. 2008) (citing S.G. Phillips Constructors, Inc. v. City of Burlington, Vermont (In re S.G. Phillips Constructors, Inc.), 45 F.3d 702 (2d Cir. 1995)).

Furthermore, the Second Circuit has explicitly found that any cause of action stemming from a contract entered into and breached post-petition is a core proceeding because the adjudication of post-petition contract claims is an integral part of administering the estate. Ben Cooper, Inc. v. Ins. Co. of Pa. (In re Ben Cooper, Inc.), 896 F.2d 1394, 1399-1400 (2d Cir. 1990) ("We hold, therefore, that the bankruptcy court has core jurisdiction, pursuant to § 157(b)(2)(A), over contract claims under state law when the contract was entered into post-petition.")

The Debtors filed their bankruptcy petitions on October 8 and 15, 2005 and the Post-Confirmation Supply Agreement was entered into on or about September 4, 2008. Walsh Decl. ¶ 8(d). Because the Contract Action arises from a dispute regarding a contract entered into and breached post-petition, it falls within the category of a core proceeding under 28 U.S.C. §157. See In re Ben Cooper, Inc., 896 F.2d at 1399-1400. Additionally, these core proceedings are not inextricably tied to non-core proceedings, and hence, the Reorganized Debtors should not be bound by the forum selection clause. See In re Commodore International, 242 B.R. at 261.

Furthermore, in a proceeding in which a nondischargeable postpetition, pre-effective date claim was at issue, another court in this district noted that "[t]he Court was unable to find any reported decision where a court, other than the court in which the debtor filed, substantively adjudicated the determination of whether an administrative claim against the debtor's estate should be allowed as an actual, necessary cost and expense of preserving the estate." In re WorldCom, Inc., No. 02-13533, 2009 WL 2959457 at *5 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. May 19, 2009) (emphasis added).

In support of its argument that the forum selection clause should control venue, Methode cites to M/S Bremen v. Zapata Off-Shore Co., for the rule that forum selection clauses "are prima facie valid and should be enforced unless enforcement is shown by the resisting party to be unreasonable under the circumstances." 407 U.S. 1, 10 (1972). Methode fails to mention, however, that the Supreme Court expanded upon this statement by finding that the resisting party could overcome the presumption by showing that enforcement of the clause would contravene a strong public policy of the forum in which the suit is brought. Moreover, Methode does not address numerous cases in this circuit and others that have found that transferring a core matter that is not inextricably intertwined with non-core matters adversely impacts the strong public policy interest in centralizing all core matters in the bankruptcy court. See In re Bennett Funding Group, Inc. 259 B.R. at 252 ("Transferring a core matter that is not 'inextricably intertwined' with non-core matters adversely impacts the strong public policy interest in centralizing all core matters in the bankruptcy court."); see also In re Stephanie Brown, 354 B.R. 591 (Bankr. D.R.I. 2006) ("courts have uniformly found that forum selection clauses in core contract proceedings are not automatically enforceable because such enforcement would undermine the goal of centralizing bankruptcy proceedings"); In re Iridium Operating LLC, 285 B.R. at 837 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2002) (holding that "although there is a strong policy favoring the enforcement of forum selection clauses ... this policy is not so strong as to mandate that forum selection clauses be adhered to where the dispute is core"); N. Parent, Inc., v. Cotter & Co. (In re N. Parent, Inc.), 221 B.R. 609, 622 (Bankr. D. Mass. 1998) (collecting cases and holding that "[r]etaining core proceedings in this Court, in spite of a valid forum selection clause, promotes the well-defined policy goals of centralizing all bankruptcy matters in a specialized forum to ensure the

expeditious reorganization of debtors"). Because the Contract Action stands on its own, there is no reasonable basis for believing that it is inextricably intertwined with non-core matters.

Furthermore, Methode states that forum selection clauses have even more force after a plan is confirmed and courts enforce such provisions, notwithstanding language in chapter 11 plan reserving bankruptcy court jurisdiction over disputes involving the debtor, especially where virtually all distributions have been made and the outcome of the proceeding will have no impact upon the plan and cites Unified Data Sys. v. Almarc Corp. (In re Almarc Corp.), 94 B.R. 361, 366 (Bankr. E.D. Pa. 1988) in support. Although, Methode correctly summarizes the rule set forth in Almarc, the Almarc court in making its ruling explicitly disagreed with the holding of a similar case decided in the Eastern District of New York, Matter of Hudson Feather & Down Products, Inc., 36 B.R. 466 (E.D.N.Y. 1984), which found that no effect upon the plan was required. In re Almarc Corp., 94 B.R. at 364 ("At least one court has held that a retention of jurisdiction clause found in a confirmed plan would justify bankruptcy court resolution of an adversary proceeding, pending at the time of confirmation, even though the outcome of the proceeding would have no effect upon the plan. Respectfully, I disagree with this holding.")

What is more, even under the rule set forth in Almarc, jurisdiction of this Court over the Contract Claim would be proper because of the more than \$40 million in damages sought by Methode. Methode's sizeable claim was not contemplated at the time the plan was confirmed and would certainly have a detrimental effect on the Reorganized Debtors' ability to carry out the terms of the plan.

C. Permissive Abstention Is Not Warranted

The Court should also decline Methode's request to abstain from hearing Methode's Contract Claim under discretionary abstention pursuant to 28 U.S.C. Section

1334(c)(1). Although this Court granted discretionary abstention in In re Portrait Corporation of America, Inc., the Court noted that "[f]ederal courts should be sparing in the exercise of discretionary abstention," and "the balance should be 'heavily weighted in favor of the exercise of jurisdiction.'" 406 B.R. 637, 641-42 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2009) (internal citations omitted).

In denying a request for discretionary abstention in these cases in connection with recent litigation between the Delphi Salaried Retiree's Association and General Motors LLC, the Court reiterated that a decision to abstain is "extraordinary" and noted the Supreme Court's statement that a court's duty to exercise its jurisdiction when properly invoked is a "virtually unflagging obligation." (Docket No. 19587, Feb. 25, 2010 Tr., pp. 86-87.) As in that case, numerous factors weigh against abstention here and also distinguish Methode's state court contract claim from the claims at issue in Portrait Corp. Among other things:

- The state court case has been enjoined by the Modified Plan and this Court's Plan Modification Order. Therefore, there is no risk of the state court and this court making overlapping or inconsistent factual findings because the state court action is not proceeding. See id. at 643.
- Methode's claims are subject to dismissal on bankruptcy grounds having nothing to do with the underlying dispute which – unlike in Portrait Corp. – arise from interpretation of this Court's own orders rather an order entered by another bankruptcy judge. Id.
- As discussed above, the Reorganized Debtors have a large financial interest in the outcome of the dispute, whereas in Portrait Corp. the debtors were only a nominal party with no financial interest. Id.; see also id. at 639 n.1.
- To the extent the merits are relevant they revolve around commonplace breach of contract issues rather than specialized issues such as the trademark claims at issue in Portrait Corp. Id. at 642.
- There are no third parties involved in the state court action.
- There is no basis for Methode's suggestion of forum shopping where the Reorganized Debtors have merely objected to administrative claims over which this Court has retained jurisdiction, and obtained a stay in the state

court action based on the plan injunction within a reasonable time after the Effective Date.

For these reasons as well as the other reasons set forth herein, the Court should decline to exercise discretionary abstention of Methode's breach of contract claim.

WHEREFORE the Reorganized Debtors respectfully request that this Court enter an order (a) overruling Methode's Motion For An Order Permitting Methode To Continue Post-Petition Litigation With Reorganized Debtors In Michigan; (b) expunging Methode's administrative expense claims arising prior to June 1, 2009; and (c) granting the Reorganized Debtors such other and further relief as is just.

Dated: New York, New York
May 13, 2010

SKADDEN, ARPS, SLATE, MEAGHER
& FLOM LLP

By: /s/ John Wm. Butler, Jr.
John Wm. Butler, Jr.
John K. Lyons
Ron E. Meisler
155 North Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606

- and -

By: /s/ Kayalyn A. Marafioti
Kayalyn A. Marafioti
Four Times Square
New York, New York 10036

Attorneys for DPH Holdings Corp., et al.,
Reorganized Debtors

EXHIBIT A

Sent: Sunday, November 01, 2009 11:07 AM
To: Beteet, Kenneth H
Cc: Boyer, Ben; Buenzow, Julie
Subject: RE: Part Numbers 28016811 and 12233189

Ken:

Attached is Methode's claim for obsolescence. This claim is based on the cancellation notification received by Methode on 8-27-09 and the weekly release received on 8-24-09.

Methode would be happy to release components and finished goods for shipment once we have received payment in full for our obsolescence claim. Please contact Ben Boyer or Julie Buenzow with any questions.

Regards,
Tim

From: Beteet, Kenneth H [mailto:kenneth.h.beteet@delphi.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 29, 2009 10:27 AM
To: Boyer, Ben
Cc: Glandon, Tim
Subject: Part Numbers 28016811 and 12233189
Importance: High

Ben,

We understand that you may have some inventory of the subject part number bladder assemblies available for immediate possession by Delphi. If so, please confirm quantity and the contact person at Methode you would like us to coordinate collecting this material. The pricing for these part numbers are already established as follows:

- 28016811 = \$11.63
- 12233189 = \$11.74

Feel free to contact me at 765-451-2520 if you have questions and your prompt reply would be appreciated.

Ken Beteet
Manager, GSM
Delphi Corporation

Note: If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee c

Direct Supplier Cancellation Claim Request

Effective Date: May 2, 1999

Page 1 of 5

NOTE: Pages 1 and 2 of this form are to be filled out by Supplier and sent to DE Buyer for processing. Shaded areas are for DE use only.

Log # (MPS) _____

Buyer Information:

Buyer Name _____ Phone _____ FAX _____ M.S. _____

Supplier Name Methode Electronics

Date 10/30/09

Supplier Address 111 W Buchanan
 Carthage, IL 62321

Purchase Order Number(s) Various

Supplier Duns Numbers: Scheduling 13-735-5322 and 81-260-3215 Shipping 07-348-5943

Plant Code(s) of DE using factory(s) _____

Pull Signal Coordinator(s) _____

Part Number Various Part description POD's Bladders

Part standard pack quantity Various

Quantity requesting cancellation settlement See Attached

Reason for cancellation (include ECO # or Customer Cancellation Request if applicable) :

Delphi terminated contract

Type of material (steel, plastic, precious metals, etc.) Plastic, Urethane, HDPE, etc.

Are there any hazardous concerns? Yes _____ No ☒ X

If Yes, describe the appropriate disposition process _____

Quantity that is _____ **X** **Part \$** _____ **= \$** _____

completely fabricated

Indicate how the above quantity is calculated:
 SPD or SDS Date and quantity

Price (DE purchase price)

 (3 weeks minimum; current week, week before, week after)

- Pulls shipped

 (3 weeks minimum; current week, week before, week after)

- Other/Explain

See attached pages for cost of each program

- Location of Material

McAllen, Texas, USA
 (City, State, Country)

Direct Supplier Cancellation Claim Request

Effective Date: May 2, 1999

Page 2 of 5

Quantity that is partially fabricated _____

Log # (MPS) _____

Percent complete to finished state _____

\$ Value declared _____

Describe how quantity and cost are calculated _____

Location of Material _____
(City, State, Country)

Quantity of raw material and/or purchased parts _____

\$ Value declared _____

Describe how the value is calculated See attached sheets _____

Location of Material McAllen, Texas, USA
(City, State, Country)

Total Quantity _____

(should equal "Quantity requesting cancellation settlement" above)

Total \$ Value Declared

\$737,026.95 _____

Preparer's Name Julie Buenzow Preparer's Signature Julie Buenzow

Preparer's Phone Number 217-357-3941 ext 22315 FAX 217-357-6275

Return completed form to the DE buyer of this material:

- Include a copy of Material Commitment Authorization (for MPS)
- Include copies of SPD or SDS used in calculations
- Do not destroy and/or sell claimable material until written approval is given by DE
- DE has the right to audit quantities declared

Direct Supplier Cancellation Claim Request

Effective Date: May 2, 1999

Page 3 of 5

Log # (MPS) _____	
Service Needs (Excluding life time buys) _____ _____ _____	
Service Signature _____	Date _____
Salvage Recommendation: Scrap at Supplier _____ Send to DE _____ Comments: _____ _____ _____	
Salvage Signature _____	Date _____
Cancellation Claim Analysis: Date _____ End Model Numbers _____ Average daily consumption _____ Focused Factory(s) Inventory _____ Date of SPD or SDS used by supplier _____ MCA (commitment time) _____ Date of SPD or SDS used by DE _____ SPD or SDS total commitment _____ per MCA Total number of parts received _____ DE's liability to supplier _____ _____ _____ Prior Communication (describe/attach) _____ _____ _____ Analysis done by _____ Buyer (MIS material) or CMC MPS Contact (MPS material)	
Physical material audit by Finance recommended? Yes _____ Recommended by _____	
Account Classification & Finance Approval: General Ledger Account No. _____ Finance Approval Signature _____ Date _____	

Direct Supplier Cancellation Claim Request

Effective Date: May 2, 1999

Page 4 of 5

Log # (MPS) _____

Buyer Checklist & Approval:

Vendor will not accept for credit	_____	No use as alternate or optional part	_____
Cannot be modified for other use	_____	Cannot be sold	_____
Service requirement addressed	_____	Salvage recommendation addressed	_____
MPS Contact involved if MPS	_____	Release statement put on cancellation P.O.	_____
Original PO # and Part # included	_____		
in Description on PO			

Final negotiated cancellation charge \$ _____

Original P.O. No. _____ Cancellation P.O. No. _____ ECO or Customer _____
Cancellation # _____

Comments: _____

Buyer Approval Signature _____ Date _____

Purchasing Mgr/Commodity Mgr Approval Signature _____ Date _____

Supplier Accounting: Invoice No. _____ Invoice Date _____

Invoice Amount _____

Date invoice paid _____ By _____

Direct Supplier Cancellation Claim Request

Effective Date: May 2, 1999

Page 5 of 5

Total Obsolete Claim

\$ 737,026.95

Finished Goods	\$	37,705.51
Program Specific Raw Material	\$	502,101.79
Common Components Raw Material	\$	197,219.64

Program specific Raw
material Delphi
responsible
\$ 502,101.79
FG Delphi
Responsible
\$ 37,705.51

FG Delphi Responsible	Raw Material Delphi Responsible	Total Delphi Responsible	PLATFORM	DELPHI PART NUMBER	Cost per program for raw material	FG
	0	0	P221	12219220	\$ -	
1800	17640	19440	NISSAN UL	12227259	\$ 24,687.98	\$ -
	3600	3600	Landrover L319	12228239	\$ 5,454.80	
1440	13680	15120	EN	12231710	\$ 15,848.15	\$ -
	0	0	Jag X204	12228039	\$ -	
360	2520	2880	Volvo P2 C3	21000351	\$ 5,021.16	\$ -
360	1080	1440	Jag X404	21000280	\$ 2,234.76	\$ -
	0	0	Subaru 00X	12245219	\$ -	
	0	0	GMT201	28005599	\$ -	
	0	0	GMT001	28003555	\$ -	
	1080	1080	GMT345	28009245	\$ 2,599.20	
	0	0	SAAB 606	28011221	\$ -	
	0	0	SAAB 442	28005945	\$ -	
	0	0	SAAB 440	28012474	\$ -	
1440	8640	10080	S197	28011252	\$ 17,332.88	\$ -
7180	46080	53260	U204 (2005)	28014609	\$ 29,933.52	\$ 246.96
	0	0	Hyundai JM	28022794	\$ -	
	0	0	GMT360	28016013	\$ -	
	240	240	GMX001	28026953	\$ 447.97	
	0	0	Hyundai TG	12241679	\$ -	
	360	360	BENTLEY 614/615	28016811	\$ 805.77	
	0	0	MERCEDES R230	28017111	\$ -	
360	2520	2880	TACOMA/TUNDRA	28037858	\$ 3,016.18	\$ -
	0	0	Mercedes R171	28017110	\$ -	
340	5040	5380	GMX222/272	28041706	\$ 9,987.50	\$ 250.54
0	4680	4680	VOLVO Y286	28019044	\$ 4,641.91	\$ 9,494.50
	0	0	D219	28039566	\$ -	
1420	10080	11500	GMT355	28042022	\$ 5,964.53	\$ 262.13
340	2880	3220	Lexus 250L	28017741	\$ 6,744.63	\$ 255.42
2520	21960	24480	Nissan X11C	28041709	\$ 14,231.38	\$ -
	3240	3240	Audi B6/B7 Basic	28043051	\$ 3,349.38	
	0	0	GMX211/231	28044079	\$ -	
	0	0	PQ35 D1 PHAETON	28041348	\$ -	
	720	720	PQ35 Touareg (2004)	28041349	\$ 1,126.85	
3180	17640	20820	VW Jetta	28041350	\$ 22,934.62	\$ 5,465.04
240	1440	1680	VW BEETLE	28041351	\$ 5,527.98	\$ -
	0	0	Lexus 424L	28017740	\$ -	
1800	11880	13680	Hyundai CM	12241699	\$ 16,034.14	\$ -
2520	17280	19800	NISSAN HS (L32H)	28002804	\$ 13,701.55	\$ -
	0	0	AUDI A8 (D3)	28048022	\$ -	
1440	9360	10800	Toyota 041L	28046641	\$ 22,781.72	\$ -
1420	7560	8980	Toyota 221L	28017742	\$ 5,463.74	\$ 259.33
	1440	1440	L322	28042012	\$ 2,433.86	
1800	12600	14400	WS204	28017108	\$ 12,183.84	\$ -
	0	0	MCLAREN	28042014	\$ -	
1080	18900	19980	P150	28057939	\$ 21,595.45	\$ -
	0	0	Bentley BY821	28029716	\$ -	
	60	60	Bentley BY825	28031746	\$ 106.76	
	0	0	Nissan AL07	28056495	\$ -	

05-44481-rdd	Doc 20070	Filed 05/13/10 Entered 05/13/10 17:06:27 Main Document	Pg 37 of 92			
FG Delphi Responsible	Raw Material Delphi Responsible	Total Delphi Responsible	PLATFORM	DELPHI PART NUMBER	Cost per program for raw material	FG
340	2520	2860	GMX215/245	28056999	\$ 3,539.84	\$ 255.29
	0	0	Kia KM	28055834	\$ -	
	0	0	GMT900	28070165	\$ -	
	0	0	R171	28079716	\$ -	
3280	8640	11920	Subaru ZR1	28071459	\$ 16,683.60	\$ 4,436.54
	0	0	AC209 (Gen 1.5)	28086716	\$ -	
	0	0	CL203 (Gen 1.5)	28086785	\$ -	
5740	44280	50020	C170	28042522	\$ 44,285.94	\$ 246.00
360	3240	3600	Jaguar X358	28080781	\$ 5,320.20	\$ -
	0	0	GMT921	28058693	\$ -	
	0	0	C216 w/ fass	28076914	\$ -	
	0	0	C216 w/ fass & foam	28076915	\$ -	
360	6120	6480	VOLVO P2	28080155	\$ 12,196.72	\$ -
7180	37800	44980	Toyota Corolla Domestic (150L)	28091941	\$ 36,345.06	\$ 257.62
	0	0	Toyota Corolla Export (253L)	28091942	\$ -	
360	3960	4320	Toyota Scion 145L	28101880	\$ 692.67	\$ 4,649.72
360	1440	1800	SMART451	28108237	\$ 4,600.44	\$ -
	0	0	Toyota 215L/220L	28109991	\$ -	
	0	0	Audi B8	28111267	\$ -	
1080	1800	2880	Hyundai BH	28031178	\$ 2,692.03	\$ -
	0	0	Kia HM	28068994	\$ -	
1380	10080	11460	Mercedes WS212	28092602	\$ 15,739.75	\$ 789.04
360	1440	1800	Mercedes W221	28108070	\$ 4,039.02	\$ -
360	1440	1800	Porsche Panamera	28087586	\$ 2,759.26	\$ -
	0	0	GMT900 PODS D	28151126	\$ -	
3220	17280	20500	Audi B8	28128390	\$ 14,313.41	\$ 213.84
360	360	720	Hyundai BK	28088155	\$ 1,550.49	\$ -
360	1080	1440	Mercedes AC207	28163734	\$ 3,228.87	\$ -
	112	112	Viper	28160604	\$ 294.56	
13048	110880	123928	GMT900 PODS D	28179576	\$ 33,334.02	\$ 487.93
900	9720	10620	D258	28169615	\$ 9,609.39	\$ 2,324.81
500	6120	6620	V227	28146298	\$ 14,684.29	\$ 7,810.80

Yellow - Less material than Delphi is responsible for
Red - More material then Delphi is responsible for

**Common
Components
Raw Material
\$ 197,219.64**

Common Components	Cost for common Components	Inventory on Hand	Delphi Responsible Per releases	Delphi Responsible per inventory	Total Cost
83010	\$ 1.72	24897	203718	24897	\$ 42,822.60
83110	\$ 0.07	70229	436528	70229	\$ 4,916.03
83111	\$ 0.08	15370	56040	15370	\$ 1,237.29
83112	\$ 0.08	4145	27300	4145	\$ 331.60
83174	\$ 0.11	41039	63120	41039	\$ 4,698.97
83499	\$ 0.06	5920	0	0	\$ -
83591	\$ 0.06	4100	10800	4100	\$ 227.14
83009	\$ 0.06	113637.3667	366232	113637	\$ 6,295.51
83006-2	\$ 0.16	15112	17280	15112	\$ 2,373.89
83006-3	\$ 0.10	18564	21420	18564	\$ 1,808.89
83006-4	\$ 0.11	16910	10080	10080	\$ 1,065.54
83006-5	\$ 0.12	35706	35060	35060	\$ 4,120.24
83006-6	\$ 0.14	22622	26260	22622	\$ 3,259.71
83006-7	\$ 0.08	0	0	0	\$ -
83006-8	\$ 0.23	16002	11540	11540	\$ 2,651.02
83006-10	\$ 0.22	5135	1860	1860	\$ 405.32
83006-11	\$ 0.09	7234	112	112	\$ 10.19
83006-12	\$ 0.13	31286	174160	31286	\$ 4,138.62
83006-13	\$ 0.17	58712	72220	58712	\$ 10,020.34
83006-14	\$ 0.17	10726	3240	3240	\$ 537.66
83006-15	\$ 0.19	23116	19440	19440	\$ 3,777.02
83006-16	\$ 0.15	0	0	0	\$ -
83006-17	\$ 0.18	53284	150968	53284	\$ 9,723.28
83006-18	\$ 0.22	2507	0	0	\$ -
83006-19	\$ 0.15	1002	720	720	\$ 105.87
83006-20	\$ 0.09	8562	0	0	\$ -
83006-21	\$ 0.21	23389	24420	23389	\$ 4,917.21
83006-22	\$ 0.25	3817	2860	2860	\$ 724.57
83006-23	\$ 0.19	0	0	0	\$ -
83006-24	\$ 0.20	15797	11460	11460	\$ 2,314.56
83013	\$ 0.01	319144	821456	319144	\$ 3,191.44
83024	\$ 0.02	29412	75960	29412	\$ 588.24
83651-1	\$ 0.05	19855	41000	19855	\$ 945.10
83194	\$ 0.05	42988	32700	32700	\$ 1,635.00
83258	\$ 0.06	64538	156944	64538	\$ 3,998.13
83136-3	\$ 0.05	55464	88460	55464	\$ 2,911.86
83114-3	\$ 0.03	59390	43160	43160	\$ 1,294.80
83020	\$ 0.07	11536	2880	2880	\$ 187.20
83464	\$ 0.03	5486	6480	5486	\$ 180.49
83129	\$ 0.05	5107	67380	5107	\$ 254.84
83582	\$ 0.35	10207	11660	10207	\$ 3,536.73
83623	\$ 0.09	10381	20500	10381	\$ 891.73
83424	\$ 0.32	2140	240	240	\$ 77.81
83182	\$ 0.02	26652	0	0	\$ -
83248	\$ 0.12	20415	24060	20415	\$ 2,421.22
83369	\$ 0.04	10	0	0	\$ -
83306	\$ 0.17	27381	23740	23740	\$ 4,035.80
83018	\$ 0.00	181037.75	184501	181038	\$ 687.94
83476	\$ 0.01	67289.25	21420	21420	\$ 107.10

Common Components	Cost for common Components	Inventory on Hand	Delphi Responsible Per releases	Delphi Responsible per inventory	Total Cost
83012	\$ 0.03	177735	499800	177735	\$ 5,332.05
83012-1	\$ 0.03	7073	0	0	\$ -
83103	\$ 0.08	26563	47380	26563	\$ 2,125.04
83103-2	\$ 0.08	14189	35920	14189	\$ 1,135.12
83015	\$ 0.01	123563	209480	123563	\$ 1,235.63
83317	\$ 0.01	63819	118200	63819	\$ 638.19
508	\$ 2.32	8301	24642	8301	\$ 19,258.32
509	\$ 3.58	259	180	180	\$ 644.40
510	\$ 3.50	345	84	84	\$ 294.00
511	\$ 3.96	1118	1366	1118	\$ 4,427.28
507	\$ 4.73	150	0	0	\$ -
83011	0.06	10075	1440	1440	\$ 86.40
83331	0.005	21829.85	990	990	\$ 4.95
83642	0.054	1092	22300	1092	\$ 58.97
83151	1.38	6974	2880	2880	\$ 3,974.40
Evco Raw Material					\$ 5,020.14
Chem-Tech Raw Material					\$ 815.51
Silicone Costs to return material					\$ 11,227.00
Supplier Box raw material					\$ 1,513.75

EXHIBIT B



111 W. Buchanan Street
PO Box 130
Carthage, IL 62321
Ph: 217-357-3941
Fax: 217-357-6265

April 30, 2010

Mr. John Brooks
President, DPH-DAS LLC
5725 Delphi Drive
Troy, MI 48098

Re: Methode Obsolescence Claim

Dear Mr. Brooks:

We are in receipt of your letter of April 15, 2010 regarding Methode's obsolescence claim which was submitted to Delphi almost six months ago on November 1, 2009. We have followed up on that claim and provided additional requested information on November 24, 2009, December 14, 2009 and February 18, 2010.

At the outset, we note that you write on behalf of DPH-DAS. Please note that Methode is not waiving its rights as to who is the obligor for Methode's claims since Methode has no definitive independent insight at this time into what entity is responsible for Methode's claims after consummation of the Delphi plan.

We note that you dispute the amount of the claim owed by Delphi under the terms of the contract and assert that the amount due and owing is \$626,482.20 as opposed to the \$761,755.94 claim submitted by Methode. Please note that the total amount of the claim is correctly stated in the cancellation claim form as \$761,755.94. The spreadsheet earlier provided to Delphi had a discrepancy in the formula at Column CD, cell 55 and 56 at the BOM tab. A revised spreadsheet is attached.

As to its obsolescence claim, Methode has submitted complete information to Delphi and as you have noted in your letter, our spreadsheets are supported by related detail. Although we disagree with your calculation and are not waiving any portion of our claim, we would like to address specifically your exclusion of \$100,206.45 for the cost of 16,785 pressure sensors that Methode has purportedly not returned to Delphi. As set forth in great detail in our letter of February 18, 2010, those sensors are not in Methode's possession and Delphi has made a miscalculation. Delphi double-counted sensors and then did not subtract from Methode's inventory the sensors that Methode had returned to Delphi. In fact, the number of pressure sensors reported in Delphi's letter of December 9, 2009 was much closer to the actual number than the revised count

Mr. John Brooks
April 30, 2010
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in Delphi's February 5, 2010 letter. We enclose another copy of our February 18th letter for your information and consideration.

Furthermore, although Methode disputes that it provided "insufficient data" on any item in its cancellation claim and specifically Delphi's exclusion of \$18,576.40 on that basis, the attached spreadsheet provides some additional data on this point at the Summary Tab, column N, cells 63-66. The costs Methode incurred for each of the items identified by Delphi, silicone disposal costs, Evco raw material, supplier box raw material, and Chem-Tech raw material, were well within the Delphi releases and are, therefore, appropriately part of Methode's cancellation claim.

In the interest of resolving this matter, however, Methode will agree to settle its obsolescence claim for \$745,242.88 **By this offer of settlement, Methode does not in any way waive or consent to settle any other part of its pending administrative claims (Methode Proofs of Claim numbers 19950 and 19951) other than the obsolescence/cancellation claim nor can this offer be construed as such.** Those matters are separate and distinct from Methode's obsolescence claim submitted on November 1, 2009. If Delphi wishes to accept this offer of settlement of Methode's obsolescence claim, Delphi must remit payment on or before May 17, 2010.

We look forward to hearing from you promptly.

Sincerely,

Ben Boyer
Product Line Manager
Methode Electronics, Inc.



111 W. Buchanan Street
PO Box 130
Carthage, IL 62321
Ph: 217-357-3941
Fax: 217-357-6265

February 18, 2010

Mr. Kenneth H. Beteet
Senior Product Line Purchasing Manager
Delphi Electronics & Safety
P.O. Box 9005
Kokomo, IN 46904-9005

Re: Pressure Sensor Inventory

Dear Ken:

We have received your letter of February 5, 2010 and Methode cannot agree with Delphi's analysis of the pressure sensor inventory. We provide below information we believe will help resolve this issue.

One of the key points of discrepancies between Methode and Delphi's analyses is the quantity of sensor shipments to Methode. In your letter of December 9, 2009, Delphi advised Methode of quantities for both starting inventory and the shipments of sensors to Methode. Delphi advised that between January 24, 2009 and the termination of the business in September of 2009, Delphi had shipped 1,305,698 sensors to Methode and Methode had 146,689 sensors in inventory. Since Delphi does not advise Methode in advance as to the number of sensors it is shipping and since Methode does not receive an inventory for sensors en route, Methode could not verify the accuracy of either quantity but assumed the numbers Delphi provided were, in fact, correct. In your letter dated February 5, 2010, however, Delphi revised these quantities as well as some other quantities. Once again, Methode can not confirm these quantities nor understand why the quantities previously supplied by Delphi were changed.

In your February 5 letter, the sensor shipments increased leading us to believe that Delphi double-counted sensors in shipments that were already included in Delphi's "sensor starting inventory" category. In fact, our conclusion here is consistent with the total inventory numbers provided by both Delphi in its December 9 letter and by Methode in the chart below. Delphi had concluded that the total inventory was 1,452,387 and Methode concludes below that the total inventory was 1,451,338 – a discrepancy of only 1049 sensors.

As you can see from the chart below which is based on Methode's internal inventory system, between January 24, 2009 and the end of the business, there is a discrepancy of 1003 sensors.

Mr. Kenneth H. Beteet
February 18, 2010
Page 2

Item	Methode's Internal Inventory	Methode
1	Methode inventory as of 1/24/09	121,498
2	Methode's Receipt of Sensors after 1/24/09	1,329,840
3	Total Inventory	1,451,338
4	Finished Goods Shipped to Delphi	1,421,073
5	Scrap Monterrey (Scrap reported)	1,225
6	Scrap Reynosa (Scrap reported)	1,072
7	Returns to Los Indios (per BOL)	15,147
8	Material in Process (MTY) Delphi Resp.	477
9	Material in Process (Rey) Delphi Resp.	3,084
10	Sensors Located in McAllen	121
11	Finished Goods at McAllen	9,480
12	Adjustments and Scrap reported	662
		-1,003

Please note that the total inventory above (Item 3) is only 1049 sensors less than the total inventory provided in Delphi's December 9th letter. This supports the 46 piece discrepancy reflected in our letter of December 14, 2009. (1049 - 1003 = 46.)

In an effort to better understand the situation, Methode has created the following chart . Each column is identified by the date of the letter. Again, please note our analysis provided on December 14, 2009 utilized the inventory numbers provided by Delphi.

Item	Transaction Description	Delphi 12/9/09	Methode 12/14/09	Delphi 2/5/010		Methode 2/18/10
1	Sensor starting inventory (1/24/09)	146,689	146,689	146,689	Increase	121,498
2	Sensor Shipments to Methode/receipts	1,305,698	1,305,698	1,324,560	18,862	1,329,840
	Total Inventory	1,452,387	1,452,387	1,471,249		1,451,338
3	Sensors returned to Delphi		15,147	15,147	sum	15,147
4	Sensor scrap reported by Methode		2,297	3,715	18,862	2,297
5	Methode bladder shipments to Delphi (1/24/09-Sept 09)	1,420,105	1,421,073	1,420,105		1,421,073
7	Internal Adjustment (not scrap	304		304		
8	Inventory Difference	31,978	13,870	31,978		12,821
11	Material in process Monterrey Delphi Responsible		477			477
12	Material in process Reynosa Delphi Responsible		3,084			3,084
13	Sensors in McAllen		121			121
14	Finished Goods at McAllen		9,480			9,480
15	Adjustments reported on sensor scrap sheet		662			662
				15,193		
19	Total Discrepancy in dispute	31,978	46	16,785	-	1,003

Mr. Kenneth H. Beteet
February 18, 2010
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Consistent with the double-counting error discussed above, you noted in your February 5 letter that the 15,147 sensors that were returned to Delphi's Los Indios facility were accounted for in line item 2 (1,305,698). Methode agrees that those 15,147 sensors are part of the pressure sensor inventory. Therefore, when the sensors were returned to Delphi, that quantity must be **subtracted** from the total inventory at Methode. Delphi, however, is using these returned 15,147 sensors to incorrectly reconcile the double-counted sensors discussed above. Similarly, Delphi incorrectly increased the sensor scrap numbers. Methode reported scrap of only 2297 whereas in its February 5 letter, Delphi inexplicably claimed that Methode reported scrap of 3,715. The total increase in your February 5 numbers equals the sum of these two numbers shown in red above and, therefore, this error accounts for the primary discrepancy.

As for the Delphi Pressure Sensor Shipments chart provided in your February 5 letter, the Delphi BOL Delivery Numbers do not correlate to the BOL numbers on shipments received by Methode for this time period. As you will note from our attached chart entitled "Sensor Receipt 1/24/09 to End of Business", only 47 of the BOL numbers provided by Delphi match the BOL numbers on shipments received by Methode in this time frame. In other words, the Delphi BOL numbers only account for 343,920 sensors received and leaves 985,920 sensors not accounted for in our BOL receipts.

We have spent a considerable amount of time and energy trying to resolve the discrepancies between Methode and Delphi's pressure sensor inventory. We trust this pressure sensor inventory issue is not part of the Methode obsolescence claim and therefore, Methode requests immediate payment of our obsolescence claim which was submitted to Delphi on November 1, 2009 .

Sincerely,

Ben Boyer

Qty	Date Received	Bol Number	N=not on Delphi sheet
6,240.00	9/8/2009	56157083	N
9,600.00	9/1/2009	56144746	N
5,520.00	9/1/2009	56158571	Y
17,520.00	8/31/2009	56135882	N
4,800.00	8/26/2009	56105321	N
19,920.00	8/25/2009	56084684	N
6,240.00	8/25/2009	56094541	N
12,240.00	8/25/2009	56108826	Y
11,280.00	8/20/2009	56077811	Y
9,600.00	8/19/2009	56057090	N
8,160.00	8/18/2009	56047189	N
6,480.00	8/18/2009	56060095	Y
11,280.00	8/17/2009	56038099	N
14,400.00	8/12/2009	56009655	N
3,840.00	8/11/2009	56010031	N
15,120.00	8/10/2009	55958428	N
4,080.00	8/10/2009	55958428	N
480.00	8/10/2009	55986884	N
4,320.00	8/7/2009	55986623	Y
6,000.00	8/5/2009	55958425	N
8,640.00	8/4/2009	55958411	N
15,600.00	8/4/2009	55970588	Y
12,480.00	8/3/2009	55950583	N
720.00	8/3/2009	55941038	N
6,240.00	8/3/2009	55959034	Y
5,520.00	7/31/2009	55941777	Y
720.00	7/30/2009	55924592	N
15,600.00	7/28/2009	55924540	Y
8,880.00	7/24/2009	55908600	Y
1,920.00	7/23/2009	55887094	Y
5,760.00	7/22/2009	55895560	N
6,480.00	7/21/2009	55897315	Y
3,120.00	7/20/2009	55887074	Y
2,640.00	7/20/2009	55873797	N
2,640.00	7/15/2009	55862459	N
17,280.00	7/14/2009	55870255	Y
960.00	7/9/2009	55845263	Y
4,320.00	7/8/2009	55828177	N
8,640.00	7/2/2009	55814967	Y
3,120.00	7/2/2009	55782188	Y
8,640.00	7/2/2009	55782188	Y
13,440.00	6/29/2009	55782163	Y
21,600.00	6/23/2009	55743664	Y
20,640.00	6/16/2009	55698268	Y
12,750.00	6/15/2009	55687202	Y
(30.00)	6/15/2009	55687202	Y
8,640.00	6/15/2009	55672614	N
6,240.00	6/10/2009	55649091	N
1,920.00	6/10/2009	55653613	N
5,040.00	6/8/2009	55623958	N
9,840.00	6/4/2009	55605103	N
9,840.00	6/4/2009	55614392	N
5,040.00	6/2/2009	55597357	N
4,080.00	5/29/2009	55578030	N
4,080.00	5/29/2009	55578030	N
3,360.00	5/28/2009	55568183	N
6,720.00	5/27/2009	55561207	N
5,040.00	5/27/2009	55548729	N
2,160.00	5/22/2009	55525762	N
3,360.00	5/22/2009	55525762	N
5,280.00	5/22/2009	55533466	N
8,640.00	5/20/2009	55510140	N
10,800.00	5/20/2009	55517243	N
5,280.00	5/19/2009	55492288	N
5,520.00	5/14/2009	55485021	N
480.00	5/14/2009	55485021	N
7,920.00	5/13/2009	55476548	N
10,320.00	5/12/2009	55469721	N
6,240.00	5/8/2009	55454329	N

Qty	Date Received	Bol Number	N=not on Delphi sheet
4,800.00	5/7/2009	55446293	N
5,760.00	5/6/2009	55437857	N
7,200.00	5/5/2009	55431120	N
4,320.00	5/4/2009	55417876	N
4,320.00	4/30/2009	55408270	N
8,880.00	4/30/2009	55387782	N
7,200.00	4/29/2009	55398239	N
3,360.00	4/23/2009	55362374	N
3,360.00	4/22/2009	55353519	N
14,400.00	4/21/2009	55338264	N
6,000.00	4/17/2009	55326714	N
6,000.00	4/16/2009	55318509	N
4,320.00	4/15/2009	55312324	N
6,240.00	4/15/2009	55293986	N
6,000.00	4/13/2009	552818829	N
6,000.00	4/13/2009	55291499	N
720.00	4/8/2009	55270973	N
6,480.00	4/7/2009	55250437	N
11,520.00	4/6/2009	55240586	N
2,160.00	4/2/2009	55230794	N
6,720.00	4/1/2009	55221877	N
2,880.00	3/31/2009	55211443	N
8,880.00	3/31/2009	55223271	Y
9,120.00	3/26/2009	55181866	N
6,480.00	3/20/2009	55143746	N
7,200.00	3/19/2009	55125148	N
18,720.00	3/17/2009	55097522	N
5,520.00	3/12/2009	55089606	N
5,760.00	3/10/2009	55053411	N
2,400.00	3/10/2009	55053411	N
19,200.00	3/3/2009	55022458	N
720.00	3/3/2009	55022458	N
1,920.00	2/25/2009	54982756	N
8,880.00	2/25/2009	54982756	N
17,280.00	2/24/2009	54974955	N
7,680.00	2/19/2009	54942749	N
1,680.00	2/19/2009	54942749	N
11,760.00	2/19/2009	54949636	N
6,960.00	2/19/2009	54949636	N
6,480.00	2/13/2009	54917906	N
7,200.00	2/12/2009	54907155	N
1,200.00	2/12/2009	54897457	N
6,000.00	2/12/2009	54897457	N
1,440.00	2/10/2009	54888220	N
16,560.00	2/10/2009	54888220	N
3,360.00	2/3/2009	54846828	N
14,160.00	1/27/2009	54799396	N
13,920.00	1/27/2009	54799396	N
5,280.00	2/5/2009	54861119	N
3,360.00	9/8/2009	56157083	N
8,640.00	8/31/2009	56135882	N
4,800.00	8/28/2009	56136515	Y
4,800.00	8/26/2009	56105321	N
6,240.00	8/25/2009	56084684	N
6,000.00	8/25/2009	56094541	N
12,240.00	8/25/2009	56108826	Y
5,520.00	8/20/2009	56077811	Y
480.00	8/20/2009	56077811	Y
240.00	8/18/2009	56047189	N
7,680.00	8/18/2009	56047189	N
6,480.00	8/18/2009	56060095	Y
11,280.00	8/17/2009	56038099	N
1,680.00	8/12/2009	55009655	N
12,720.00	8/12/2009	56009659	N
13,440.00	8/11/2009	56010031	N
6,240.00	8/10/2009	56009694	Y
4,320.00	8/7/2009	55986623	Y
2,160.00	8/5/2009	55958425	N
3,840.00	8/5/2009	55958425	N

Qty	Date Received	Bol Number	N=not on Delphi sheet
2,880.00	8/4/2009	55958411	N
6,000.00	8/4/2009	55970588	Y
12,240.00	8/3/2009	55932837	N
960.00	8/3/2009	55941038	N
3,600.00	8/3/2009	55959720	Y
960.00	8/3/2009	55959034	Y
4,560.00	7/31/2009	55941777	Y
3,600.00	7/30/2009	55924592	N
6,000.00	7/28/2009	55924540	Y
1,920.00	7/27/2009	55913845	N
4,080.00	7/24/2009	55908600	Y
1,200.00	7/23/2009	55887094	Y
720.00	7/23/2009	55887094	Y
5,280.00	7/23/2009	55880025	N
5,520.00	7/22/2009	5589560	N
720.00	7/21/2009	55897315	Y
1,680.00	7/21/2009	55897521	N
5,040.00	7/20/2009	55887074	Y
5,280.00	7/20/2009	55880100	N
2,640.00	7/16/2009	55870056	N
12,960.00	7/7/2009	55828812	Y
7,200.00	7/2/2009	55814967	Y
9,360.00	6/16/2009	55698268	Y
720.00	6/16/2009	55698268	Y
12,480.00	6/15/2009	55687202	Y
8,640.00	6/15/2009	55660510	N
9,120.00	6/10/2009	55653613	N
4,800.00	6/8/2009	55623958	N
4,800.00	6/2/2009	55597357	N
3,360.00	5/28/2009	55568183	N
5,040.00	5/27/2009	55548729	N
5,280.00	5/22/2009	55525762	N
4,800.00	5/22/2009	55533466	N
720.00	5/22/2009	55533466	N
2,160.00	5/20/2009	55510140	N
5,040.00	5/19/2009	55492288	N
4,560.00	5/14/2009	55485021	N
1,440.00	5/14/2009	55485021	N
4,080.00	5/13/2009	55476548	N
4,800.00	5/12/2009	55469721	N
240.00	5/8/2009	55454329	N
3,120.00	5/8/2009	55454329	N
4,800.00	5/7/2009	55446293	N
5,760.00	5/6/2009	55437857	N
6,960.00	5/5/2009	55431120	N
4,320.00	5/4/2009	55417876	N
4,320.00	4/30/2009	55408270	N
7,200.00	4/30/2009	55387782	N
5,280.00	4/29/2009	55398239	N
4,080.00	4/24/2009	55371486	N
6,960.00	4/23/2009	55362374	N
11,040.00	4/22/2009	55353519	N
6,000.00	4/17/2009	55326714	N
6,000.00	4/16/2009	55318509	N
2,400.00	4/15/2009	55293986	N
5,760.00	4/15/2009	55293986	N
2,880.00	4/13/2009	55281829	N
3,120.00	4/13/2009	55281829	N
6,000.00	4/13/2009	55291499	N
5,040.00	4/8/2009	55270973	N
3,120.00	4/7/2009	55250437	N
1,200.00	4/2/2009	55230794	N
2,400.00	4/2/2009	55230794	N
2,880.00	3/31/2009	55211443	N
9,120.00	3/31/2009	55223271	Y
4,800.00	3/26/2009	55181866	N
4,080.00	3/26/2009	55181866	N
7,200.00	3/19/2009	55132483	N
11,040.00	3/11/2009	55079020	N

EXHIBIT C

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

Case No. 05-44481-rdd

- - - - -x

In the Matter of:

DELPHI CORPORATION, et al.,

Debtors.

- - - - -x

U.S. Bankruptcy Court

One Bowling Green

New York, New York

August 20, 2009

10:20 AM

B E F O R E:

HON. ROBERT D. DRAIN

U.S. BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

1 additional fact that would, I think, be implicated in the
2 litigation in that one of the principal OEMs that received the
3 CD players was General Motors, and General Motors waived a
4 substantial portion of their warranty claims in connection with
5 all the settlements that we had --

6 THE COURT: So that would --

7 MR. BUTLER: -- or dealt with.

8 THE COURT: -- that would greatly reduce the fifteen
9 million in claims damages.

10 MR. BUTLER: Arguably, Your Honor, it would. I mean,
11 you know, you'd get in -- I think you'd get into an argument
12 about fungibility at the time, but that's what 9019 is designed
13 for us to assess.

14 THE COURT: Right.

15 MR. BUTLER: And, ultimately, the judgment reached was
16 this -- the settlements before Your Honor seem to be an
17 appropriate disposition of this litigation under these
18 circumstances.

19 THE COURT: Okay.

20 Does anyone have anything to say on this motion?

21 All right, for the reasons stated in the motion, I'll
22 approve it as clearly a fair and reasonable settlement.

23 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, matter number 7 on the agenda
24 is the motion of Plymouth Rubber Company, LLC seeking to have
25 an administrative claim that was filed fifteen days after the

1 bar date to be deemed timely filed, at docket number 18714.

2 And counsel's here to present the motion.

3 THE COURT: Okay.

4 MR. VINCEQUERRA: Good morning, Your Honor. James
5 Vincequerra, Duane Morris, for Plymouth Rubber Company, LLC.

6 I'll explain in a minute why I'm emphasizing the LLC. With me
7 today is Kara Zaleskas from my -- Duane Morris' Boston office.

8 As a matter of housekeeping, Your Honor, Ms. Zaleskas
9 filed a pro hac vice motion approximately two weeks ago. I
10 don't believe I saw the order on the docket yet. I would just
11 ask, to the extent she is required to appear here --

12 THE COURT: That's fine. That's granted.

13 MR. VINCEQUERRA: Thank you very much, Your Honor. A
14 number of -- a lot of trees were killed in the filings in
15 connection with this matter. We raise no less than five issues
16 as to why -- or reasons why our claim should be deemed timely
17 or should otherwise be -- or the new admin claims bar date
18 should not be deemed to apply to our claim.

19 I'm really going to focus here on two of the issues:
20 the improper notice issue first and then, to the extent that
21 Your Honor finds that the new bar date does apply to the claims
22 of Plymouth Rubber Company, LLC, the excusable -- the
23 components of excusable neglect.

24 I'll leave the balance of the arguments in our papers
25 with regard to the technicalities of the amended admin bar

1 date, or the new admin bar date, the efficacy of that
2 admitted -- or modification order and the informal notice to
3 our papers. I think they're argued fairly clearly there.

4 THE COURT: The informal proof-of-claim argument?

5 MR. VINCEQUERRA: Yes, that's right.

6 THE COURT: Okay.

7 MR. VINCEQUERRA: I apologize. I'll leave those to my
8 papers and reserve any statements on those for rebuttal to the
9 extent we deem it's necessary.

10 As an initial matter, do you have any questions about
11 the papers, Your Honor? I'd be happy to answer them.

12 THE COURT: Well, I've reviewed them, so -- I guess
13 the issue on whether it's Inc. or LLC, to my mind, is -- it
14 seems to me it's a non-issue because it was actually received
15 by the claimant, right? It was received?

16 MR. VINCEQUERRA: It was received the day after the
17 bar date.

18 THE COURT: Well, no, I mean it was received by the
19 individual who forwarded it on.

20 MR. VINCEQUERRA: Well, really, the -- I mean, the
21 point we're getting to is proper notice, I would imagine. And
22 a couple of points. The debtor to points to 2002(g) and
23 service on LLC first through the law firm Burns and Levinson
24 and then at the former address of the Plymouth Rubber, Inc.
25 entity. A couple of points here, Your Honor. Service was made

1 pursuant to outdated -- you know, an outdated claims --
2 outdated exhibit-and-schedules lists and based on a claim that
3 was filed by a different entity. Service was effected on
4 counsel for a different entity. Burns and Levinson LLC, which
5 makes up a bulk of the notice argument, never represented the
6 LLC entity. I mean, and it's important to understand --

7 THE COURT: Was there any -- is there anything in the
8 record about notice of Plymouth Rubber Company Inc.'s Chapter
9 11 case and reorganization by --

10 MR. VINCEQUERRA: Delphi actively participated in that
11 case, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: How do I know that?

13 MR. VINCEQUERRA: Excuse me?

14 THE COURT: How do I know that? Or will they
15 acknowledge that?

16 MR. VINCEQUERRA: Well, I can't imagine they won't
17 acknowledge it, Your Honor, as they filed stipulations in that
18 case as well as, I believe, a claim.

19 THE COURT: When did the plan confirm?

20 MR. VINCEQUERRA: Plymouth Rubber Inc. confirmed its
21 plan and emerged from bankruptcy on August 31st, 2006. And
22 maybe I should back up a little bit, Your Honor, and give you a
23 little bit of a time line here because that may be helpful.

24 THE COURT: I mean, I know they sued LLC.

25 MR. VINCEQUERRA: That -- you know, that's the rub

1 here, Your Honor. They served the objection -- the notice of
2 the new bar date on Inc. at seven different locations, or five
3 different locations, wherever it -- however many it was, served
4 counsel for Inc. Burns and Levinson has never represented the
5 reorganized debtor, and -- but they got it right when they
6 wanted to sue the new entity under the new purchase order.

7 THE COURT: But, again, Mr. Collins forwarded this
8 notice on to LLC, right?

9 MR. VINCEQUERRA: Well, you're right, Your Honor,
10 they --

11 THE COURT: And he was acting as LLC's agent, wasn't
12 he?

13 MR. VINCEQUERRA: Right, as part of the wind-down
14 staff. And if --

15 THE COURT: Okay.

16 MR. VINCEQUERRA: -- if Your Honor is -- you know,
17 wants it moved forward to the excusable neglect argument, which
18 I think is also a very good argument, I don't think the notice
19 was proper there. I think, you know -- at footnote 3 of their
20 objection is very telling. They note that for the purposes of
21 their objection they presume that LLC is the successor-in-
22 interest to Inc. I'm not aware of any case law that says you
23 can get the benefit of that assumption for notice requirements
24 under an --

25 THE COURT: But, again --

1 MR. VINCEQUERRA: -- under an admin --

2 THE COURT: -- Mr. Collins made the same presumption,
3 right? He sent the notice on to LLC?

4 MR. VINCEQUERRA: He did send it on, there's -- we do
5 not contest that fact.

6 THE COURT: Okay.

7 MR. VINCEQUERRA: So if you have no other questions
8 for me on the proper notice -- we don't contest the fact that
9 Mr. Collins did receive actual notice -- I can move on to
10 excusable neglect.

11 THE COURT: Okay.

12 MR. VINCEQUERRA: Debtors don't contest two components
13 of excusable neglect: They don't contest that the -- regarding
14 the length of delay or Plymouth Rubber's good faith. So,
15 really all that we're left with, Your Honor, is the prejudice
16 requirement and the reason for delay.

17 Mr. Butler indicated that a proof of claim was filed
18 fifteen or sixteen days after the bar date. That's technically
19 true. We alerted -- well, we alerted counsel for the debtor
20 the day after the bar date, asking them to deem the claim
21 timely filed; that's reflected in Ms. Zaleskas' affidavit.

22 But to get to the point of excusable neglect, Your
23 Honor, what happened here is really a perfect storm for my
24 client. The prior entity, the Inc. entity, will have business
25 relationships with Delphi as a result of the Delphi bankruptcy

1 and things that happened which, to be quite honest with you, my
2 firm was not involved with. They went into bankruptcy and
3 reorganized. When they emerged from bankruptcy, they had new
4 equity, substantially new officers and directors, effectively a
5 new entity; entered into a new purchase order agreement with
6 Delphi on January 30th, 2008. About nine months after that,
7 that's approximately a year and a half after, they emerged from
8 bankrupt -- the reorganized debtor emerged from bankruptcy.

9 Approximately nine months after entry into that
10 purchase order, Delphi sued Plymouth Rubber Company, LLC in
11 Michigan for breach of the contract, for breach of the purchase
12 order agreement. Plymouth Rubber Company, LLC counterclaimed,
13 and that's the basis of our -- those are the bases of our --
14 that's the basis of our admin claims.

15 Six days after Delphi sued Yongel (ph.) -- the Yongel
16 Company, another -- a supplier of Plymouth Rubber Company also
17 sued Plymouth Rubber Company, LLC. And in that case as well,
18 Plymouth Rubber Company filed counterclaims both against Yongel
19 and Delphi.

20 Both those cases were consolidated for mediation
21 purposes and they're in global mediation. The -- as a result
22 of the lawsuits from their principal buyer and their principal
23 supplier, Plymouth Rubber Company, LLC started its own line
24 down in October of 2008 and approximately three months after
25 that laid off all of its employees. And that's where we have,

1 you know, the sole employee of the debtor, Mr. Collins.

2 So, you know, it's important to remember -- oh, let me
3 jump -- I'm sorry, excuse me, Your Honor, let me jump to the
4 portions of excusable neglect that are in dispute: reason for
5 delay. We laid out some of these facts because, I mean,
6 clearly there is a legitimate reason for Plymouth Rubber
7 Company, LLC's one-day delay in providing notice to the debtors
8 with regard to their admin claim.

9 THE COURT: I guess my one issue with that is why
10 didn't Mr. Collins open the envelopes?

11 MR. VINCEQUERRA: Why did he open the envelopes?

12 THE COURT: Why didn't he?

13 MR. VINCEQUERRA: Why didn't he?

14 THE COURT: Right. I mean, he got them on the 9th.
15 He put them -- it doesn't say this, but I guess one can infer
16 that he didn't open them, he put them in another envelope and
17 mailed them to Mr. -- it begins with an S, let me get the right
18 name -- Mr. Schultz.

19 MR. VINCEQUERRA: Yes, that's right. His name is --

20 THE COURT: I don't understand why he didn't open the
21 envelopes, because they weren't received by Mr. Schultz until
22 six days later. I mean, particularly if he'd been waiting --
23 if they'd been -- you know, if he only checks the P.O. box
24 every two weeks, I don't understand why he wouldn't have opened
25 the envelopes.

1 MR. VINCEQUERRA: Well, I mean, it's not in his
2 papers, Your Honor, and anything I say would be pure, you know,
3 suspicion and guesswork. But the fact of the matter is that
4 the notices were not addressed to the entity that employed him.
5 They were addressed to an Inc. -- the Inc. entity. So, LLC
6 never filed a notice of appearance in this case, has never
7 appeared in this case until this dispute, and they never felt
8 that they had a need to appear in this case because they were
9 party to a post-petition contract that, under the prior plan,
10 gave them an allowed amended claim.

11 So, I mean, while it's pure, you know, circumspection
12 as to why he did not open the letter for a day and put it in
13 regular mail, the letter wasn't addressed to the entity that
14 employed him and the entity that's in wind-down.

15 THE COURT: Well, it didn't employ Mr. Schultz either,
16 did it?

17 MR. VINCEQUERRA: No, it did not. So, Your Honor, to
18 continue on with reason for the delays, you know, there was an
19 aggressive timetable here for the bar date, from the height of
20 the holiday season. We're in -- Plymouth Rubber Company, LLC
21 is in its own wind-down, is on a short staff, and I think that
22 there's ample justification here for the reason of delay -- for
23 the reason for delay.

24 To move to the other component that's in contest, as
25 to prejudice, I don't see, you know, any realistic manner of

1 prejudice here for the debtors. They learned of the claim one
2 day after the bar date. There's no contest that Ms. -- there's
3 no question that Ms. Zaleskas -- I mean, it's not contested
4 Ms. Zaleskas alerted the debtors to the claim the day after the
5 bar date. The claim was filed a week and a half to two weeks
6 later, followed shortly by this motion. The claim is an
7 unliquidated amount, is in the nature of a counterclaim, you
8 know, brought as a response to suits against Plymouth Rubber
9 Company, LLC.

10 My understanding from my reading of the plan and
11 disclosure statement in this case and some things in the news
12 is admin claims are anticipated to be paid in full, and there
13 are literally hundreds of millions of dollars of admin claims.

14 So I see very little chance for prejudice there. The
15 debtors make the argument that -- you know, the classic
16 floodgates argument that you commonly see in pioneer type of
17 cases. The facts of this case are so unique I really don't see
18 that as a reasonable prospect. Two creditors of the debtors
19 with substantially similar names but different entities, you
20 know, the claimant being in wind-down, I just don't see the
21 floodgates opening here.

22 So with that, Your Honor, if you have no questions,
23 I'll turn it over to, I guess -- is it Mr. Powlen?

24 MR. POWLEN: Yeah.

25 THE COURT: Is it -- was it a compulsory counterclaim?

1 Does it arise under the same transaction or occurrence?

2 MR. VINCEQUERRA: Rises under the same purchase order
3 agreement.

4 THE COURT: Okay.

5 MR. VINCEQUERRA: Thank you very much, Your Honor.

6 MR. BUTLER: Judge, just one moment, if you don't
7 mind.

8 (Pause)

9 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, I just want to make sure the
10 record is clear here. I have, and I think counsel will
11 acknowledge that we obtained, and I have for the Court, a
12 certification of conversion from a corporation to a limited
13 liability company of Plymouth Rubber Company, Inc., a
14 Massachusetts corporation. It's -- it is the same company. I
15 mean, we hear that it's different companies and not successors.
16 I actually have the documentation from the State of Delaware
17 Secretary of State's Office that we obtained that shows that on
18 September 1st, 2006 the same legal entity was converted from
19 one kind of corporation in Delaware to another kind of
20 corporation in Delaware.

21 So, I mean, I think the suggestion that these are
22 fundamentally different entities just is not accurate. And
23 I've got the evidence here. I don't think that counsel,
24 Mr. Vincequerra, would dispute the Secretary of State of
25 Delaware as to what the entity is, and I have that.

1 So this is the same legal entity that was converted on
2 the -- on September 1st.

3 Second, Your Honor, Mr. Vincequerra, in his argument,
4 made a major point about the fact that there was a new purchase
5 order in January of 2008. And, in fact, there was a purchase
6 order that was reissued on -- in January of 2008 after the 2006
7 reorganization to Plymouth Rubber, and it was purchase order
8 number P6850008, and it was issued to the address 500 Turnpike
9 Street in Canton, Massachusetts. That was the business address
10 that the parties New Plymouth, Plymouth LLC, whatever one wants
11 to call it, that is the address that Plymouth used with Delphi
12 in connection with the new purchase order that Mr. Vincequerra
13 referred to, and the PO was issued to that address. And the
14 notice of administrative claims bar date was -- one of the
15 places that it went to was to that address in Canton.

16 And so I think that the -- you know, the argument that
17 the notice, in addition to being actually received, it also was
18 the business address that Delphi and Plymouth Rubber Company,
19 LLC used between themselves in the January 2008 purchase order
20 and was the appropriate business address.

21 I don't think, Your Honor, that this matter should
22 turn in any respect on the issue of notice. Appropriate notice
23 was given; it was given in connection with -- to the
24 appropriate -- you know, the legal entity, which really was the
25 same entity converted, to the business address that was used in

1 the 2008 contract between the companies. And the notice was
2 actually, in fact, received.

3 I think the question is more the excusable neglect
4 question here, and I only have a few comments on that. First,
5 we acknowledged in our papers that we did receive a call from
6 counsel the day after the bar date. That isn't unusual. We
7 receive those kinds of calls fairly regularly when there are
8 bar date issues, and our response is always the same, which is
9 it's not our bar date to change, it's the Court's bar date, and
10 that we don't have any ability to change the date and people
11 need to take whatever steps they need to take to protect their
12 clients. And the same kind of -- the same discussion was had
13 with counsel for Plymouth Rubber.

14 The fact that they waited a couple of weeks -- and it
15 wasn't just a week, it was the fact they waited until after the
16 plan modification hearing to submit the proof of claim two
17 weeks later, is -- you know, kind of mystifies me as to why
18 they chose to do that. But that's not excusable neglect. They
19 could have filed something the next day. According to
20 Mr. Vincequerra's argument, it would have been -- you know, all
21 they needed to do was to file an administrative claim that
22 attached the lawsuit and that that would have done that.

23 I think when you look at the -- from the company's
24 perspective, the issue here is -- Your Honor, I think, knows
25 from the plan modification hearing and all of the pleadings

1 filed in connection with that, Delphi was on a mission over the
2 last fifteen, sixteen months since the prior plan, before it
3 was modified, hadn't gone effective, to try and develop a
4 solution for these cases that would be successful, that would
5 involve modifying the plan, emerging pursuant to a plan and
6 providing for the payment of administrative expenses that are
7 allowed. And that took an enormous amount of effort and
8 negotiation to do that. And one of the things, the processes
9 we went through in the latter part of July, was to assess all
10 of the claims that were made in connection with the bar date
11 and to evaluate those with our chief restructuring officer and
12 with the representatives of our other major stakeholders,
13 particularly with the -- some of the advisors of the DIP
14 lenders in connection with their credit bid so that we were all
15 comfortable in proceeding on the 29th here. And that was based
16 on having an assessment of what the world of administrative
17 claims was through July -- or through May 31st, understanding,
18 as Your Honor knows, under the modified plan that's now been
19 approved, the -- there's another window bar date that's going
20 to go out covering June 1st through the anticipated effective
21 date of September 30th.

22 But making the assessment of what the unpaid
23 administrative claims were from the -- from October 5, 2005
24 through May 31, 2008 was a real exercise in connection with
25 preparing for the plan modification hearing. And the fact that

1 counsel or their client chose not to file the claim for a
2 couple of weeks after they had actual notice and they had had
3 actual conversations with us I don't think fits within the
4 factors of excusable neglect.

5 That's all, Your Honor, the debtors would have to say
6 on this.

7 THE COURT: Well, let me explore that a little bit
8 more. Is there or was there an estimate of allowed
9 administrative claims that was a factor in the DIP lenders and
10 GM going forward on the 29th to propose the winning plan
11 support agreement and lead to the modified confirmation --

12 MR. BUTLER: Yes, Your Honor. You --

13 THE COURT: -- of the plan? Because, I mean, I don't
14 remember any testimony --

15 MR. BUTLER: No.

16 THE COURT: -- on, you know, some floor that -- or
17 some ceiling for administrative claims or anything.

18 MR. BUTLER: No, there's not, Your Honor. There was
19 not. What Your Honor may recall was that one of the charts
20 that we put up and went through explained how the
21 administrative liabilities were going to be allocated among the
22 parties.

23 THE COURT: Right.

24 MR. BUTLER: It was intentional that -- and one of the
25 things we fought for in the MDA was not to have dollar cap

1 limitations. There were, in fact -- that was a subject of
2 protracted negotiation, actually, as to whether or not there
3 would be limitations and what those liabilities would be and,
4 instead, the agreement was to do it by category. And Your
5 Honor saw those categories allocated between the GM entity, the
6 DIPCo entity and DPH Holdings, the reorganized entity.

7 THE COURT: Right.

8 MR. BUTLER: And there was also a focus, and Your
9 Honor may recall that Mr. Stipp, in his sworn testimony,
10 provided in his declaration a fair amount of discussion about
11 the assessment of administrative claims as it related to DPH
12 Holdings' ability to be able to deal with its -- or what it
13 needed to satisfy as it moved forward. And so there was an
14 assessment that went on, there was -- Mr. Stipp did make those
15 evaluations and make those assessment, and there was that, if
16 you will, sort of informal feasibility discussion among the
17 parties. Ultimately, that didn't arise to the level, Your
18 Honor, of having -- beyond the sworn testimony, there wasn't
19 any controversy at the plan modification hearing about it
20 because ultimately it had been negotiated out.

21 THE COURT: So which of the three entities would be
22 responsible for any affirmative recovery here?

23 MR. BUTLER: Without prejudicing the estate, because I
24 may get this wrong, but my sense is that this is a retained
25 liability of DPH Holdings. I don't know that this -- and the

1 reason I say that is because this supplier no longer does
2 business with the company. This is a -- but I'd have to check
3 that in terms of -- go back and check that under the plan in
4 the negotiations. But this is a supplier -- this is a former
5 supplier who, from the company's perspective, failed to live up
6 to its obligations under the purchase order, and it required
7 Delphi to incur a very substantial expense in re-sourcing from
8 the supplier who failed to live up to the terms of their
9 contract in the company. And that's only why we sued them, and
10 we re-sourced the product.

11 So I think the re-sourced product and the
12 administrative liabilities associated with them go to, in fact,
13 DIPCo, but I think that the exposure under this litigation is
14 likely a DPH Holding obligation. But I'd have to confirm that,
15 Judge. That's my best recollection.

16 THE COURT: Okay. Well --

17 MR. BUTLER: And as you know, DPH Holdings --

18 THE COURT: It wouldn't be -- I guess it wouldn't be a
19 GM one because this isn't a GM plant --

20 MR. BUTLER: No, it's not -- no, no, it's -- and
21 that's what I'm saying to you. My -- and I think Ms. Kraft
22 (ph.) is here from the company and we just told her about
23 this -- my believe is the retained liability for the litigation
24 exposure would be DPH Holdings. And the supplier contract for
25 what was the re-sourced contract, which is with another entity,

1 that obligation and the administrative claims associated with
2 it, that went to DIP Holdco, or will go to DIP Holdco.

3 THE COURT: Okay.

4 MR. BUTLER: I think that's the proper -- at least
5 that was the philosophy behind the negotiation at the time.

6 THE COURT: All right. And it looks like to me the
7 counterclaim -- you can correct if I'm wrong -- the
8 counterclaim just seeks monetary damages, right? It doesn't
9 seek specific performance or anything like that?

10 MR. BUTLER: That's correct.

11 THE COURT: It's an unliquidated claim. Have there
12 been any discussion as to what the damages are asserted to be
13 as far as the counterclaim? Either one of you --

14 MR. BUTLER: There was, Your Honor -- I'm advised, and
15 Mr. Vincequerra may know, I was advised it was a mediation. I
16 don't know what was --

17 THE COURT: Right.

18 MR. BUTLER: -- put on the table at the mediation.

19 THE COURT: I mean, I don't want you to reveal
20 settlement proposals, but, just, has there been a settlement of
21 what the damages could be?

22 MR. VINCEQUERRA: Yes, Your Honor, that's the irony of
23 this whole thing for my client is that while this bar date
24 procedure has been going on, my client has been across the
25 table --

1 THE COURT: No, I know there's been a mediation. I'm
2 just trying to figure out what --

3 MR. VINCEQUERRA: No, there have been -- you know, a
4 mediation is fairly far along. There have been numbers
5 exchanged.

6 THE COURT: I don't want to hear settlement proposals.
7 What I'm focusing on here is, on the issue of prejudice, you
8 had made a good point that these claims are going to be paid in
9 full under the modified plan. The point I've just been
10 exploring with Mr. Butler is who's going to be paying them. If
11 it is, as it would appear to me to be the case just from the
12 nature of the claim and the MDA, the remaining holding company,
13 the debtor wind-down company, then I did make a conclusion as
14 part of my ruling approving the modification of the plan that
15 that modification was feasible, and that was premised upon the
16 testimony about the likely amount of administrative claims and
17 the funding of the successor entity and the like.

18 So the reason I'm asking this question is to find out
19 how large your claim is. It wasn't taken into account in that
20 testimony, and it was a large claim that may affect the
21 prejudice calculation. I just don't know. I mean, it's an
22 unliquidated claim. I don't know whether it's large or not but
23 whether it's, you know, something that, for example, pales in
24 comparison to the debtors' claim.

25 So I'm not asking you about settlement discussions;

1 I'm asking what's been asserted, unless you want to tell me
2 what you think the realistic number is. But that's up to you.

3 MR. VINCEQUERRA: It's difficult to say , Your Honor,
4 because, to be quite honest with you, I haven't been involved
5 in the mediation. I understand from our mediation statement
6 that that counterclaim number that we've been stuck at is
7 roughly twenty million dollars. Again, that's as a
8 counterclaim that would be, obviously, offset against any
9 successful recovery that they have against us.

10 THE COURT: Although it would seem to be it's
11 either/or, right? Unless you settle it, either they breached
12 or you breached. So I'm not sure there'd be much of an offset.

13 Okay. All right.

14 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, that's all the debtors
15 have --

16 THE COURT: Well --

17 MR. BUTLER: -- unless you had a question.

18 THE COURT: -- let me ask you, though, based upon a
19 twenty million dollar claim, how does that affect the -- was
20 any liability for this taken into account in the declarations
21 in support of the modification of the plan?

22 MR. BUTLER: My understanding is the answer to that
23 question is no, there was no money allocated to this amount
24 through the -- whether the claims process was evaluated.

25 The -- and, you know, Your Honor, there has been a

1 wide variety of lawsuits started, stopped in hiatus, since
2 October of 2005. And the debtors relied on the administrative
3 claims process here that went out to everybody as -- to catch
4 the claims that people were going to assert as part of the --
5 to understand as part of the plan modification process.

6 THE COURT: And, again, this claim came in after the
7 plan modification hearing.

8 MR. BUTLER: Correct. It came in on the June 30 -- on
9 July 30th --

10 THE COURT: The hearing was on the 29th.

11 MR. BUTLER: -- and where the hearing was July 29th.
12 And the assessment was actually made in the days -- we spent
13 three or four days leading up to the July 29th hearing going
14 over this evaluation and assessment.

15 THE COURT: Okay.

16 MR. BUTLER: And I think -- you know, I don't have
17 Mr. Stipp here, Your Honor, but Ms. Kraft is here and she works
18 closely with Mr. Stipp. I think that Mr. Stipp would tell you
19 that if he had an extra twenty million dollar -- if in fact,
20 taking their -- I think we disagree vigorously with the claim,
21 but if you add another twenty million dollars of litigation
22 exposure to the pot, would that be material, I think Mr. Stipp
23 would say yes, it's material.

24 THE COURT: Well, what was funding again for --

25 MR. BUTLER: Remember, the funding from -- I think it

1 was -- the entire funding from General Motors was fifty
2 million; plus, we had the plants that were retained which we
3 could sell off; plus, we had --

4 THE COURT: But those are more dogs and cats than --

5 MR. BUTLER: They were.

6 THE COURT: Right.

7 MR. BUTLER: Plus, we had the avoidance actions, to
8 the extent that there's collectability on some of the avoidance
9 actions. And there were some other -- there were some -- I
10 think some other MRA payments, I think, from General Motors or
11 a few other sources of revenue. But it was calibrated. It
12 was -- you know, it was designed, as you know, to provide for
13 an efficient disposition of all of those assets and remediation
14 of the -- of some of the other issues and payment of the
15 liabilities. So I think Mr. Stipp would argue that twenty
16 million was material in that calculation.

17 THE COURT: Okay.

18 MR. BUTLER: Thanks, Judge.

19 THE COURT: Okay.

20 MR. POWLEN: Just one minor point, Your Honor.

21 Mr. Butler -- I don't know if he passed it up, because I didn't
22 see him pass it up, but makes much of the fact that the
23 entities -- the LLC entity and the Inc. entity are the same. I
24 know Your Honor said actual -- there was -- you know, the
25 notice was received, but they're the same entities. And I know

1 Mr. Butler's familiar with the concept of a fresh start and a
2 reorganized debtor, but they're the same entities as they would
3 be in any post-effective date debtor that has entirely new
4 equity and has a fresh start in a bankruptcy. That this was
5 not accomplished through a 363 sale and a transfer of assets
6 but rather an infusion of equity and a stock deal doesn't
7 change the fact that at the end of the day they were dealing
8 with a newly born entity.

9 Other than that, Your Honor, I have nothing further.
10 Thank you very much for your time.

11 THE COURT: Okay.

12 Is -- neither Mr. Collins nor Mr. Schultz is here,
13 right?

14 MR. POWLEN: No, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: They're not present?

16 MR. POWLEN: No, Your Honor. We had discussions with
17 Skadden, and prior to the hearing we agreed that we would just
18 rely on the affidavits.

19 THE COURT: Okay.

20 Okay, anyone else?

21 Okay, I have before me a motion by Plymouth Rubber
22 Company, LLC for an order deeming its administrative expense
23 claim timely filed or for related relief. The origin of this
24 dispute is that, in connection with proceeding to obtain the
25 modification and ultimate consummation of its confirmed but

1 unconsummated Chapter 11 plan, Delphi Corporation and its
2 affiliated debtors sought approval of an administrative claims
3 bar date for the Chapter 11 period through May of 2009. The
4 debtors' confirmed Chapter 11 plan was not consummated because,
5 asserting breaches, the plan investors under that plan refused
6 to close in April of 2008. That left Delphi with a significant
7 hole in the required funding for the confirmed plan. Delphi
8 then spent close to a year dealing with ways to plug that hole
9 as well as to address the further deterioration in the
10 financial markets and in their perception of Delphi's value,
11 which led to a substantially different approach, ultimately, to
12 their exit from Chapter 11 under a Chapter 11 plan.

13 The debtors, in assessing their ability to emerge from
14 Chapter 11, and having entered into an agreement with an entity
15 called Platinum, as well as General Motors, that would have
16 provided for that combined entity's acquisition of most of the
17 debtors' business operations in return for sufficient cash to
18 deal with a portion of the administrative claims against the
19 debtors, plus stock -- I'm sorry, plus forms of contingent
20 consideration -- having entered into that transaction, the
21 debtors determined that they needed prompt means to calculate
22 the outstanding administrative claims other than the debtor-in-
23 possession financing claims against them, and, therefore,
24 obtained from the Court, in connection with establishing
25 procedures for consideration of the proposed modification to

1 the Chapter 11 plan involving GM and Platinum, the
2 administrative claims bar date.

3 The bar date notice provided for, for purposes of a
4 bar date, fairly short notice, but given the timing constraints
5 that the debtors faced, including, in essence, a week-to-week
6 extension of enforcement of remedies under the DIP facility and
7 a clear and short deadline from GM and Platinum, such notice
8 was appropriate under the circumstances.

9 The debtors sent out the notice and received timely
10 administrative claims from approximately 2,400 claimants. The
11 claims procedures motion that is on the calendar for later
12 today states that approximately one billion dollars of
13 administrative claims were asserted in those proofs of claim,
14 plus unliquidated amounts.

15 Ultimately, the proposed modified plan was itself
16 modified, although not materially so for purposes of the issues
17 before me today -- and instead of Platinum acquiring
18 significant assets under the plan, along with GM, Platinum was
19 replaced by the debtors after an auction process by a
20 consortium of the debtor-in-possession lenders. And that
21 group, plus GM, entered into an MDA with the debtors, which
22 formed the basis for the modified plan. The Court held a
23 hearing on that modification and approved it on July 29th, two
24 weeks after the administrative claims bar date.

25 The rough structure of the plan provides for the

1 continuation of most of the debtors' businesses, either in the
2 hands of a GM acquisition company with respect to certain
3 facilities that primarily manufacture parts for GM vehicles, as
4 well as other assets that would go to the DIP lender
5 acquisition group.

6 The third split of the debtors' assets would be
7 retained by the debtors, since neither GM nor the DIP
8 acquisition group wanted to acquire them. In addition, that
9 entity that would continue to hold those assets would receive a
10 cash payment by GM to enable that entity to pay administrative
11 claims against it that were not being assumed in connection
12 with the purchase of ongoing operations by the DIP acquisition
13 vehicle and GM acquisition vehicle. And that amount of cash
14 was determined by the debtors in consultation with various
15 constituents, including GM, to be sufficient to have the
16 surviving debtor entity meet its obligations under the plan,
17 including the payment of allowed administrative claims.

18 The Court took testimony on that aspect of the
19 proposed plan modification in the form of an affidavit by
20 Mr. Stipp, in which he went through his analysis of likely
21 sources and uses of cash to pay that entity's administrative
22 claims. No one cross-examined Mr. Stipp. And based upon my
23 review of the MDA, the modified plan and the affidavits
24 submitted in support thereof, I concluded that the plan, as
25 modified, was feasible: that is, that it was not likely to be

1 succeeded by a liquidation under Chapter 7 and that it could be
2 performed, including the payment of administrative claims, as
3 contemplated by the plan.

4 The debtors sent out notice of the administrative
5 claims bar date as required by my order establishing the bar
6 date, and notice was actually received by Plymouth Rubber
7 Company, Inc. on -- it is acknowledged to have been received by
8 Plymouth Rubber Company, Inc. on July 9, 2009. That's set
9 forth in the affidavit in support of Plymouth's motion of
10 Mr. Collins.

11 The debtors sent that notice to the address in their
12 post-petition purchase order between them and Plymouth Rubber
13 Company, LLC -- the same location. The address on the envelope
14 was to Plymouth Rubber Company, Inc., which had been the entity
15 with which the debtors had done business prior to Plymouth's
16 Chapter 11 reorganization.

17 Mr. Collins, as I said, received the notice, which was
18 also sent to numerous other locations to Plymouth Rubber
19 Company, Inc., including to the counsel that filed the proof of
20 claim on behalf of Inc. in the Chapter 11 case. Mr. Collins
21 did not open the notice but, instead, on July 10th, put it, and
22 apparently some other correspondence, in an envelope and
23 forwarded it to Mr. Schultz, who is described in the Collins
24 affidavit as a representative of Plymouth Rubber, LLC's parent,
25 or at least an affiliate, retained to manage Plymouth's

1 affairs, Versa Capital Management, Inc., which also manages the
2 funds which directly own the equity interest in Plymouth
3 Rubber.

4 Although mailed on July 10th, according to
5 Mr. Collins, the notice was not received by Mr. Schultz until
6 July 16th, at which point Mr. Schultz, unlike Mr. Collins,
7 opened the package, read the notice and immediately contacted
8 the debtors, seeking an extension of the bar date, which was
9 not agreed to.

10 It's undisputed that Plymouth did not file the proof
11 of claim and/or seek approval of an extension until July 30th,
12 after the plan modification hearing.

13 Plymouth requests that the Court consider its
14 administrative claim timely on a number of different grounds,
15 although most of the focus, properly so, of this hearing, has
16 been on the ground of excusable neglect. Before I deal with
17 that issue and those factors, let me briefly deal with the
18 other bases for Plymouth's requested relief.

19 First, Plymouth contends that the Court did not have
20 power to establish the administrative claims bar date, given
21 the treatment of the administrative claims bar date in the
22 original plan and the confirmation order. The plan itself
23 contemplated, in the definition of "administrative claim," the
24 potential for establishing a different administrative claims
25 bar date than was set forth in the plan, which was a date

1 forty-five days after the confirmation of the plan. The plan
2 also reserved fully the debtors' rights in the event that the
3 plan did not go effective, which clearly was the case.

4 That plan, as I noted, contemplated a very different
5 outcome for creditors than the current modified plan. Not only
6 was there no issue of the payment of all administrative claims,
7 requiring no determination, as a practical matter, by the Court
8 as to feasibility for potential failure to cover administrative
9 claims, but also the plan provided for full payment of
10 unsecured creditors at a deemed plan value, and a substantial
11 return to shareholders. Consequently, the plan's
12 administrative claims bar date provision was appropriate for
13 that structure -- again, one where there was really no issue as
14 to whether the debtors would be able to pay all asserted
15 administrative claims.

16 The confirmation order similarly provided for a forty-
17 five day post-confirmation administrative claims bar date and
18 stated that it would govern in light of -- in the event of a
19 conflict between the plan and the confirmation order. And
20 clearly it was an extant order. However, the debtors' need to
21 set an earlier bar date, given the changes to their plan, was
22 clear and required the establishment of a different bar date,
23 clearly, in the context of the deadlines they were facing. The
24 Court considered such a request to be appropriate, both in
25 light of the rights that the debtors reserved for themselves

1 under the confirmed but not consummated plan, as well as under
2 the Court's ability to amend the confirmation order, which on
3 this point, was quite clearly outdated.

4 Therefore, I believe that Plymouth's argument that the
5 Court exceeded its authority in setting a new administrative
6 claims bar date order, and that Delphi and the other parties
7 should be governed in this respect by the terms of the
8 confirmed plan and the confirmation order entered in 2008, is
9 not well taken and is denied.

10 Next, Plymouth argues, as a matter of due process,
11 that the notice to it of the administrative claims bar date was
12 deficient. It does so on two grounds. The first is that it
13 asserts the debtors were involved in post-petition litigation
14 commenced by the debtors in state court in Michigan against
15 Plymouth as well as subsequent litigation commenced by a third
16 party in Massachusetts. The second is that the debtors knew
17 that Plymouth was represented by counsel in that litigation,
18 and, therefore, that in addition to the other places that the
19 debtors provided Plymouth with notice, they should have
20 provided notice to litigation counsel in the Michigan and
21 Massachusetts litigation. It should be noted that those counsel
22 did not file a notice of appearance in the Chapter 11 case and
23 that, in fact, they have not appeared in the Chapter 11 case
24 until this current motion.

25 The motion relies upon, primarily, on this point, In

1 re Grand Union Company, 204 B.R. 864 (Bankr. D. Del. 1997), in
2 which the bankruptcy court concluded in that case that the
3 debtors' direct mailing of notice to personal injury tort
4 claimants represented by counsel was inadequate notice of the
5 bar date, and that the notice should have been provided to the
6 personal injury counsel that Grand Union was dealing with.
7 That case flies in the face of a number of cases in the Second
8 Circuit, including in the Southern District of New York, which
9 state that notice requirements under the Bankruptcy Code,
10 including in respect of bar dates (and notices of similar
11 consequence), do not have to be sent to counsel representing
12 the claimant, but may instead only be sent -- or need only,
13 instead, be sent to the claimant itself. See, for example, In
14 re Brunswick Baptist Church v. Brunswick Baptist Church, 2007
15 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 3319 (N.D.N.Y. Jan. 16, 2007); In re
16 Alexander's Inc. 176 B.R. 715 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 1995); In re
17 R.H. Macy & Company Inc. 161 B.R. 355 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 1993);
18 and Dependable Insurance Company v. Horton, 149 B.R. 49 (Bankr.
19 S.D.N.Y. 1992).

20 I should note further that Judge Walsh, in the Grand
21 Union case, made it clear that he was focusing on the unique
22 facts before him, where he found that the claimants who
23 received the notice were unsophisticated and that all dealings
24 in respect of their claims had previously been through their
25 respective counsel. Clearly, Plymouth is not an

1 unsophisticated tort claimant here.

2 Consequently, based on the rationale of the Brunswick
3 Church case and the other cases I've cited, I do not believe
4 that the debtors were required to give notice to counsel of
5 record in the pending litigation, particularly as, as I noted,
6 that counsel had not appeared in the Chapter 11 case.

7 In addition, Plymouth contends that it filed through
8 its counterclaim in the pending non-bankruptcy litigation an
9 informal proof of claim that should be recognized by the Court,
10 and clearly that that proof of claim was timely in that it was
11 well before -- the counterclaim was filed well before the
12 expiry of the administrative claims bar date. The argument,
13 however, again runs afoul of case law in this district and the
14 majority of the cases, including at the circuit court level
15 elsewhere: that is, that the document giving rise to the
16 informal proof of claim was not filed in this Court, but
17 rather, instead, only in the courts in Michigan and in
18 Massachusetts.

19 I should note that the cases that deal with this issue
20 are generally dealing with pre-petition claims. But given the
21 practice of treating claims and disputes related to missed bar
22 dates for administrative claims the same way as the courts
23 treat missed bar dates for pre-petition claims, I find those
24 claims to be analogous -- those cases, I'm sorry, to be
25 appropriate here, and for all intents and purposes on all

1 fours. For the close analogy see -- between disputes in
2 respect of late administrative claims and disputes in respect
3 of late pre-petition claims, see *In re PT-1 Communications Inc.*
4 386 B.R. 402 (Bankr. E.D.N.Y. 2007).

5 The informal proof of claim rule, as far as I can see,
6 has always, in the Second Circuit and in the Southern District,
7 been applied to claims that were not filed in the form of a
8 proof of claim, but that were filed in the bankruptcy court,
9 that show an intention to make a demand for money from the
10 debtors' estate. See *In re G.L. Miller & Company Inc.* 45 F.2d.
11 115 (2d Cir. 1930), as well as the statement of the four-factor
12 test -- factor one of which is that the claim, the documents
13 have been timely filed with the bankruptcy court and had become
14 part of the judicial record -- in *In re Enron Corporation* 370
15 B.R. 90 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2007).

16 The rationale for this, again, is the collective
17 nature of a bankruptcy case and the need to put more than just
18 the debtor on notice of the existence of the claim. See also
19 *In re M.J. Waterman & Associates Inc.* 227 F.3d. 604 (6th Cir.
20 2000), and *In re Trans World Airlines Inc.* 182 B.R. 102 (D.
21 Del. 1995), which was reversed in part and affirmed in part,
22 reversed on other grounds, at 96 F.3d. 687 (3d Cir. 1996).
23 Consequently, I don't believe that the complaint or the
24 counterclaim asserted in the Massachusetts District Court
25 action and the Michigan State Court action would constitute an

1 informal proof of claim.

2 Lastly, the movant contends that notice was improper
3 because it was delivered, albeit at the same address, to
4 Plymouth Rubber Company, Inc. as opposed to Plymouth Rubber
5 Company, LLC. The change in name resulted from the Chapter 11
6 reorganization of Plymouth Rubber Company, Inc., which is the
7 entity that had filed the proof of claim against the debtor's
8 estate. The emerged, reorganized debtor changed its name to
9 Plymouth Rubber Company, LLC as the successor to Plymouth
10 Rubber Company, Inc., and that was the entity, again at the
11 same address, with which the debtor contracted post-petition
12 under the contract that is now the subject of the dispute in
13 Michigan and Massachusetts.

14 Plymouth contends that because the notice was sent to
15 "Inc." as opposed to "LLC," albeit at the same address, that
16 notice was constitutionally deficient. Under the facts before
17 me, however, I do not accept that argument. As set forth in
18 Mr. Collins' affidavit and in the motion itself, Mr. Collins
19 was the sole employee of Plymouth Rubber after it had
20 determined to wind down its affairs. He was retained by the
21 managing - or manager for Plymouth Rubber, LLC as well as the
22 manager for other investments owned by the fund that owned the
23 debtor, Versa Capital Management. And I believe that, as
24 evidenced by the fact that Versa opened the notice and that
25 Versa had hired Mr. Collins to look after LLC's affairs, and

1 that, therefore, he was acting as Versa's agent in this matter,
2 there was sufficient actual notice as of July 9th for due
3 process purposes.

4 The issue then comes down to whether the late filing
5 of the proof of administrative claim should be permitted under
6 Bankruptcy Rule 9006 for excusable neglect. A claims bar date
7 is an important milestone in most Chapter 11 cases, and clearly
8 here the administrative claims bar date was an important
9 milestone in this case for the reasons that I've already
10 stated. See First Fidelity Bank N.A. v. Hooker Investments
11 Inc.(In re Hooker Investments Inc.), 937 F.2d. 833, 840 (2d
12 Cir. 1991), in which the Court said, "A bar order does not
13 function merely as a procedural gauntlet, but as an integral
14 part of the reorganization process." See also In re Musicland
15 Holding Corporation, 356 B.R. 603, 607 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2006).

16 In most cases, the filing of a bar date order and the
17 existence of a bar date enables the debtor and other
18 constituents to determine whether the projected payments under
19 a plan will actually satisfy the parties' expectations; and, in
20 particular, an administrative claims bar date enables the
21 parties to determine whether the plan they're proposing is
22 feasible, in that administrative claims need to be paid in full
23 for a plan to be confirmed and consummated.

24 Nevertheless, the bankruptcy court may enlarge the
25 time for filing proofs of claim where the failure to act was

1 the result of excusable neglect, under Bankruptcy Rule
2 9006(b)(1). The U.S. Supreme Court has adopted a two-part
3 framework for the movant to establish its excusable neglect
4 under Rule 9006(b)(1). The movant has the burden in this
5 regard. See Midland Cogeneration Venture Limited Partnership
6 v. Enron Corporation 419 F.3d. 115, 121 (2d Cir. 2005).

7 That framework was set forth in Pioneer Investment
8 Services Company v. Brunswick Associates Limited Partnership,
9 507 U.S. 380 (1993). First a failure to file the proof of
10 claim must have been caused by neglect, which the Court defined
11 as inadvertence, mistake or carelessness, including intervening
12 circumstances beyond the party's control. Id. at 388. A
13 tactical, or simply a knowing, decision not to file a timely
14 claim will not suffice.

15 Second, the movant's neglect must have been excusable,
16 which is to be determined in the exercise of the Court's
17 equitable discretion taking into account all relevant
18 circumstances surrounding the failure to file a timely claim,
19 id. at 395, guided, however, by the following four factors:
20 "the danger of prejudice to the debtor; the length of the delay
21 and its potential impact on judicial proceedings; the reason
22 for the delay, including whether it was within the reasonable
23 control of the movant; and whether the movant acted in good
24 faith." Id.

25 The Second Circuit has taken a "hard line" when

1 applying the Pioneer factors to motions under Rule 9006(b)(1)
2 and other federal rules premised on excusable neglect. Again,
3 see *In re Enron Corporation* 419 F.3d at 122. Although all four
4 Pioneer factors should be considered, the Second Circuit places
5 the greatest weight on the reason for the delay and whether it
6 was in the movant's reasonable control. *In re Musicland*
7 *Holdings Corp.* 356 B.R. at 607.

8 In the normal case, the movant has acted in good
9 faith, for example, and that's the case here. Thus, the Second
10 Circuit said, "In the typical case, three of the Pioneer
11 factors, the length of the delay, the danger of prejudice and
12 the movant's good faith, usually weigh in favor of the party
13 seeking the extension. We and other circuits have focused on
14 the third factor, the reason for the delay, including whether
15 it was within the reasonable control of the movant. The
16 equities will rarely, if ever, favor a party who fails to
17 follow the clear dictates of a Court rule. Where the rule is
18 entirely clear, we continue to expect that a party claiming
19 excusable neglect will, in the ordinary course, lose under the
20 Pioneer test." *In re Enron Corporation* 419 F.3d at 122-23; see
21 also *Canfield v. Van Atta Buick/GMC Truck Inc.* 127 F.3d 248,
22 250-51(2d Cir. 1997).

23 Factors other than the reason for the delay usually
24 are relevant, therefore, only in close cases. *In re Musicland*
25 *Holdings Corporation* 356 B.R. at 608. This is a somewhat close

1 case, in that I accept that Plymouth Rubber was clearly in
2 wind-down mode, where it only had one employee, who, consistent
3 with the very limited nature of its operations (which from
4 Mr. Collins' affidavit, which is uncontroverted, pertained
5 almost entirely to the two pending litigations) meant that
6 Mr. Collins checked the post office box only roughly once every
7 two weeks. In addition, the time for the bar date notice was
8 shortened here from the normal time that would usually be
9 provided. And, finally, there was potentially some room for
10 confusion, given that the notice was addressed to "Inc." as
11 opposed to "LLC."

12 On the other hand, I find it very hard to understand
13 why, given Mr. Collins' sole function, which appears to be to
14 monitor the mail, and the fact that he did so only roughly once
15 every two weeks, he did not open the mail, but instead simply
16 forwarded it to Mr. Schultz of Versa. It would not seem to me
17 that he should have done that, given that Plymouth had
18 established the P.O. box that he checked as opposed to setting
19 up an automatic forwarding from Plymouth's address to Versa's.
20 It would appear, instead, to me appropriate for Mr. Collins to
21 have acted as someone who actually read the mail as opposed to
22 as a second mailman for delivery purposes.

23 So, clearly, it was within Plymouth's control to have
24 had notice of the bar date, at least by July 9th. Moreover,
25 Plymouth did not file its claim until after the hearing on plan

1 modification, which it needn't have waited for. It had the
2 claim or was aware of the late claim issue on July 16th, but,
3 nevertheless, waited two weeks thereafter to do so. So, all
4 things being considered, it appears to me that while this is a
5 somewhat close case, the neglect here was largely within the
6 control of Plymouth.

7 Secondly, while the time between the bar date and the
8 filing of the claim was relatively short, I conclude that there
9 was prejudice to the debtor and other parties that resulted
10 from the delay. If, in fact, the responsibility for paying
11 this administrative claim, to the extent it is allowed, rested
12 with either GM or the DIP lender acquisition vehicle, it would
13 appear to me, particularly given the balance of factors on
14 whether the delay was within Plymouth's control, that the lack
15 of prejudice to the estate would have argued for letting the
16 claim be filed late. (The fact that some party receives a
17 smaller distribution or another third party pays more money as
18 a result of a claim being allowed to be filed late is not
19 sufficient prejudice, it is not the type of prejudice that the
20 courts have in mind when they evaluate the prejudice factor
21 under Pioneer.)

22 However, here, I believe there is prejudice to the
23 estate. And also, again, some blame should be laid on Plymouth
24 for causing this prejudice by not filing the claim until after
25 the plan modification hearing. As represented by Mr. Butler,

1 who clearly was involved in the preparation for the plan
2 modification hearing and the debtors' efforts to determine
3 whether, in fact, the MDA would result in a feasible plan, the
4 calculation of likely administrative claims against a surviving
5 debtor entity was a key factor in moving forward with the
6 hearing on July 29th.

7 It's been stated that a demand number under the
8 counterclaim by Plymouth is approximately twenty million
9 dollars. That number would have had a significant impact on
10 the debtors' presentation of the modification of the plan on
11 July 29th and the Court's consideration of whether the plan is
12 feasible or was feasible, and would have, if asserted as a
13 recovery against the debtors -- the surviving debtors, as an
14 administrative claim it could have had a very significant
15 impact on feasibility. Consequently, it would appear to me
16 that although the delay was short, it was very significant, and
17 that both the debtors as well as the other parties to the MDA,
18 and ultimately the Court, moved ahead in reliance on that claim
19 not being asserted.

20 So, that prejudice, as well as my conclusion that the
21 lateness of the claim, first in terms of its being verbally
22 asserted only on July 16th and then actually formally asserted
23 after the plan modification hearing, was largely, if not
24 entirely, within the control of Plymouth, leads me to deny
25 Plymouth's motion.

1 Obviously, to the extent that it is asserting a right
2 to setoff or recoupment, the lateness of the claim should not
3 matter, so that what this ruling effectively does is preclude
4 Plymouth from an affirmative recovery against the debtor's
5 estate as opposed to, again, a recoupment or setoff right in
6 the Michigan and Massachusetts litigation.

7 So Mr. Butler, you can submit an order to that effect.

8 MR. BUTLER: Yes, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: Okay.

10 MR. BUTLER: Your Honor, the last matter on the agenda
11 for today, matter number 8, is a motion for authority to apply
12 the claims objection procedures to administrative expense
13 claims, filed at docket number 18715. Your Honor, by this
14 motion, what we're seeking to do is to use the claims
15 procedures that Your Honor is familiar with, that have been
16 running on a separate claims track for the last two and a half
17 years, to apply those to administrative claims. And I think it
18 goes without saying that the -- and I think Your Honor has
19 observed in the past, that the procedures that have been
20 adopted by the Court here back on December 7th of 2006 at
21 docket number 6089, have served the debtors well and have dealt
22 with an expeditious treatment of almost 17,000 proofs of claim,
23 and through some 34 omnibus claims objections that addressed
24 over 14,000 of those claims, and have resulted in the
25 disallowance or withdrawal of over 10,000 of those claims. So